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FLYING SOUTH

51 pairs of Virgin Atlantic tickets to Johannesburg TOKEN ONE

AND DETAILS





AND NO SOUL Simon Barnes despairs for skating PAGE 27 PLUS Newcastle save a point

at Wimbledon PAGE 29

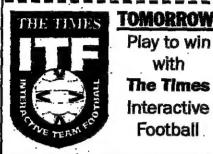
TODAY

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

<u>TODAY</u>

Roger Boyes starts a new column on Europe from Bonn - PAGE 14





Play to win with The Times Interactive Football



THURSDAY

Books for Easter



John Habgood on the Oxford Dictionary of World Religion

Karen Armstrong on James, brother of Jesus

Plus: Last-minute travel bargains





PLUS: WEEKEND, CAR 97,

WEEKEND MONEY, 1015 FOR YOUNG TIMES READERS AND 7-DAY TV AND

RADIO GUIDE IN THE DIRECTORY

New Army code to end ban on gays

ARMY officers are drawing up a new code of moral conduct which would effectively remove the ban on homosexuals and change the current strict attitude towards

Senior Army officers rewriting the discipline and standards guidelines, which were last updated in 1993, believe it is no longer justified to treat individuals differently on the basis of their sexuality.

They want the Army Board to approve a new moral code under which only those individuals whose sexual activities can be shown to have a direct impact on a unit's operational effectiveness should face disciplinary action or administrative discharge.

"What we're talking about is sexual adventurism or overt sexuality, the kind of behaviour that can have a really bad effect on a unit," one Army source said.

Under the radical approach, gays and lesbians serving in the Army would not automatically face administrative discharge if exposed as homosexuals.

Although the proposed liberal code of conduct flies in the face of current Government policy, which still supports the ban on homosexuals, the new approach suggested by the senior Army officers is supported by top civil servants at the Ministry of Defence.

The change in attitude towards sexuality has been largely driven by the surge in legal cases involving homosexuals, lesbians and transsexuals who have been pursuing compensation claims in British and European courts.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said last week that a Labour government would lift the ban on homosexuals in the Armed

The senior civil servants believe the Armed Forces must prepare themselves for significant changes across the whole spectrum of personal and sexual behaviour to bring them more into line with the rest of society and ensure that they cannot be accused of any form of

Apart from the "inevitable" lifting of the ban on homosexuality. they say the strict codes governing officers who commit adultery will also have to be changed, provided their actions do not interfere with operational effectiveness.

The Government's position on homosexuality is that it is incompatible with military life because of the close physical conditions in which servicemen and women have to work and live. It has

BY PHILIP WEBSTER

POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR and Gordon Brown

yesterday stepped up Lahour's

efforts to woo business by promis-

ing a seat for the CBI on a high-

level committee set up to prepare

for Britain's presidency of the

In what will be seen as a further

snub to the unions, Adair Turner.

director general of the CBI. has

been invited to serve on a special

group that will plan ways of

forcing the EU to open up more of

its markets. Labour sources said

that the unions would not be asked

· The Shadow Chancellor hard-

ened up his pre-election tax

pledges by reaffirming to middle

to serve on the committee.

European Union in 1998.

rigorously defended its policy in the High Court and Court of

Appeal in a number of cases.

The Army's new moral code, expected to be completed before the end of the year, is likely to be far less proscriptive than the 1993 code, adopting a more sympathetic position on sexual orientation yet emphasising the importance of maintaining combat unity.

The 1993 code states that

anyone who admits to, displays the orientation of, or indulges in homosexuality, will be required to resign or be discharged". It also says that adultery, whether committed within the military community or outside, "is likely to prejudice the position of an indi-vidual and may bring the Army into disrepute"

General Sir Roger Wheeler, the new Chief of the General Staff, is known to be a pragmatic commander who is likely to give his approval to a more modern attitude towards sexual behaviour, although he has not yet sanctioned the radical stance being adopted

by some of his senior officers. Despite the belief at the top of the MoD civil service that changes in policy on homosexuality, adultery and other forms of sexual conduct are inevitable for all three Services, strong resistance remains in some parts of the ministry.

Royal Navy chiefs, in particular, are opposed to lifting the ban on homosexuality because they believe that in the close confines of a warship or submarine, the presence of known homosexuals would undermine morale and destroy operational effectiveness.

Admiral Sir Jock Slater, the Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, has made his position clear to ministers and his staff: he is adamantly opposed to any lifting of the ban on homosexuals. One Navy source said: "Some people believe that because of all the court cases, there will have to be a change in the present position, but this is not the view of the First Sea Lord. He thinks the MoD should fight these issues all the way, even

through to the European courts."
However, unlike the Army's present position on adultery, the Navy takes no action or interest in any relationship that takes place ashore when individuals are off duty. The Navy source said: That's an entirely private matter. All we are worried about is what happens on hoard ship or at a naval establishment."

Lesbian investigator, page 2

Blair's CBI snub to unions

and higher income earners that a

Labour government would not

raise the ceiling on national insur-

ance contributions, the plan felt to

have contributed severely to

The move came as it was

disclosed that Mr Turner had been

consulted on the contents of a

separate manifesto, to be released

alongside the main party manifesto, which will be aimed at winning

Mr Brown also made plain that

not all privarised utilities would

pay Labour's proposed windfall

tax. He said that while all the

utility companies sold off by the

Tories would be "eligible" for the

tax, if they had not made excess

profits they would not be liable.

Mr Brown's remarks added to

the support of Britain's bosses.

Labour's defeat in 1992.



French welcome British sea hero

FROM EDWARD GORMAN IN LES SABLES D'OLONNE

FRANCE took Pete Goss to its heart yesterday when the British yachtsman finished his epic solo round-the-world voyage and was welcomed by more than a hundred thousand people on a glorious spring afternoon.

Goss, 35, who finished in fifth place in the Vendée Globe and is the fastest Briton to sail round the world singlehanded with a time of 126 days and 21 hours, was overwhelmed by his reception at Les Sables d'Olonne on the Biscay coast. He was greeted by Raphael Dinelli, the French sailor whose life he saved in the Southern Ocean after his boat capsized. Goss is to receive the Légion d'honneur for his heroism.

'It's impossible really," he said. "I've been in solitary confinement for four and a half months and I've just bounced back into humanity. It's extraordinary — I feel very.

very emotional and I am very privileged."
As his 50it yellow-hulled yacht Aqua
Quorum was shepherded slowly into the
harbour by a flotilla of spectator boats, Goss stood on the foredeck waving at the people standing up to 20 rows deep on the harbour walls to applaud him.

The self-effacing Cornishman, who sold his house and ran up debts of more than

£100,000 to take part in the race, could only mouth "this is just amazing," amid the din of boat horns, cheers, whistles and clapping.

When Aqua Quorum finally made it to the dock, Goss's wife, Tracey, was the first on board, enveloping him in hugs and kisses. Then came Philippe Jeantot, the race organiser, who has called Goss "the true hero of the Vendee Globe," and then his father Michael and mother Sally.

Next was Raphael Dinelli, whose life Goss saved in the Southern Ocean at Christmas when he turned Aqua Quorum into 70-knot winds and appalling seas to find the stricken

Continued on page 2, col 7

PRINTING.

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More Hamas suicide attacks threatened

TENSION in the Middle East increased yesterday as violence continued in various parts of the occupied West Bank and Hamas threatened to launch more suicide attacks against Israeli targets. Four people, including the bomb-er, were killed in a crowded Tel

Aviv café last week. Hamas said Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, would not be able to crack down on its activities because it had an organisational structure in place and was ready to strike against Jewish targets based outside the areas under his control.

Talks reprieved, page 10

speculation that the electricity and

water companies will bear the

Kenneth Clarke will hit back at

Labour's claims to be the party of

The involvement of Mr Turner

in the business manifesto prepara-

tion has added to suspicions

among some union leaders that

they are being sidelined, and that

Mr Blair, rather than treating both

sides of industry equally, is cur-

rently leaning towards the

Labour sources admitted that

with the CBI being a key player in

the business and government

working group on the British

Continued on page 2, col 5

business in interviews and at a

brunt of the tax, while British

Telecom will escape.

press conference today.



"They're all the same"

Hamilton 'accepted up to £60,000'

Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods who triggered the cashfor-questions controversy, lost track of payments he made to MPs but claims that Neil Hamilton accepted between £40,000 and £60,000.

According to transcripts ob-tained by The Times the Egyptianborn businessman admitted to Sir Gordon Downey that he grossly underestimated the amount he paid to Tim Smith, the Tory MP for Beaconsfield.....

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Baden-Powells condemn ruling on homosexual leaders



Baden-Powell: would not have approved

A DECISION by The Scout Association not to bar homosexuals from becoming leaders has been condemned by the family of the founder Robert Baden-Powell and by many

The adoption of an equal rights policy has sparked fresh controversy over whether enough is being done to set an example, in the original spirit of the movement, to the 500,000 girls and boys who now belong. Details of the policy were distributed at the end of last month and county commissioners are being briefed on how it should be implemented. It will be many letters from them. Having

volunteer organisers.

Betty Clay, whose father started the movement in 1908 to develop the character and responsibility of boys. and who is a vice president of the movement, said her father would not have approved. "He was very much against any exceptionally unnatural ways of living and would not have liked people with odd tendancies to be leaders and the example for boys

and young men to follow," she said. One of the main tenets of the movement had always been to provide alternatives to bad behaviour. she said. "He knew very well the

bation orders starting in 1987

were 53 per cent after two

years, 64 per cent after four years, and 70 per cent after

seven years. The comparable

figures for offenders given

community service were 55 per

cent, 65 and 70 per cent

Secretary, yesterday admitted that the II per cent rise in

violent crime in 1996 was a

"regrettable part" of overall recorded crime which fell 1.3

He was speaking on LWT's Jonathan Dimbleby pro-gramme in the first major live

debate of the general election

campaign. Mr Howard. de-

bating with Jack Straw and

Alex Carlile, warned of the

danger of the European Court

of Human Rights eventually

ordering the release of Myra

Hindley, the Moors murderer. Hindley is to exhaust all

remedies in the English courts

before considering a challenge in Europe over Mr Howard's decision that she should spend

the rest of her life in prison. Mr Howard said: "If the

European Court of Human

Rights were take that step, I think it would call into ques-

tion whether we could contin-

ue to be signatories to the

European Convention on Hu-

per cent last year.

Michael Howard, the Home

many ways of facing up to them and overcoming them and these are what he prescribed in his books to young men. There are so many alternatives to bad behaviour

Lord Baden-Powell the grand on of the founder and also a vice president, said the move was 'extraordinary" and is demanding an explanation for the decision

Bill Walker, the Tory MP and chairman of the parliamentary Scout group, said the decision could damage the movement because those involved working with children were expected to conform to a conventional code. "The Scout movement is for

been through fite himself he had a marred to accept Christian values and training, not trendy modern views that may not stand the test of time." unh atheists and paedophiles are

prevented from becoming Scout leader, under the new policy, which was tormed as a result of a three-year review Warren Hawksley, Tory MP for Hale amen and Stourbridge, said the decision was potentially catastrophic since it would lead to parents being put off allowing their children in become scouts regardless of whether there was a real risk.

Some of the movement's leaders have voiced their disquiet and threatened to resign if the policy is not changed. However, officials at the London headquarters have been quick to reassure them that the decision over who may become a leader rested with the local people.

John Fogg, of The Scout Associ-ation, said: "One of the problems about discussing this is that in some quarters there is belief that a homosexual is automatically a paedophile and this is simply not the case. We have vigorous procedures to keep the undesirables out and nothing in this policy undermines that."

The movement had canvassed a wide range of views from all those involved in scouting and none should be suprised that the equal opportunities policy was now in place.

British hero

Continued from page I

Frenchman whose own boat had sunk and who was trying to fend off hypothermia in a liferaft. Goss is to receive the Legion d'honneur, France's most celebrated award for bravery, for the rescue.

The bond between the two. who were together on Aqua Quorum for two weeks before Dinelli was dropped off at Hobart, is extraordinarily strong and will be acknowledged at Dinelli's marriage, when Goss will be his best

Goss said his voyage had surpassed all his expectations during his preparations last year, when he struggled to find the money to build the boat and to make it to the start. "Not in my wildest dreams." he said, looking tanned, tired and a little thinner than when he set out on November 3.

"You know, just the whole project has been a triumph against adversity. If I've learnt anything from this, it was my mum and dad who said you can do anything if you want to, and I know it's true now."

On the rescue of Dinelli, he said it had been a huge ordeal for him too, first of all getting the Frenchman aboard, and then nursing him, feeding him and giving him continuous counselling. We gelled from the moment we met," he said. We were kindred spirits anyway, but we developed this

fantastic bond." M Jeantot was effusive in his praise for the Englishman. For me he is a very, very good sailor for sure," he said. When we requested him to help with Dinelli, then, for me, he became a real hero because he took so many risks to help and save him. I am a sailor, and I know what it means to go and help succeedy with no you are coing along with no you are going along with no sails and 70 knots of wind."

Former officer tells of gays' fate in forces

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

A WOMAN who was forced out of the Royal Military Police for being a lesbian has told of the techniques used to uncover homosexuals in the Armed Forces.

Caroline Meagher, a former staff sergeant with the Special Investigations Bureau, said that people's pictures and record collections were examined to provide "clues" to their sexuality. The story of Miss Meagher, 36, is told in a Channel 4 drama. The Investigator, written by Barbara-Machin, to be screened in

Miss Meagher spent much of her career pursuing sus-pected lesbians in the services. Even when she began a lesbian relationship herself, she continued to conduct the investigations, fearing that she would be dismissed if her sexuality became known.

After 13 years' service, she became a subject of suspicion and was given the opportunity to resign rather than be sacked. "It is something that I will never be able to forger said Miss Meagher. "Harrowing is a good way to describe it. I am not proud of what I did. Of course I regret it now.

"I want people to know what it is like to be gay when you are in the Army. The way you are treated is terrible, it is appalling and it is still going

Miss Meagher, who now lives in Edinburgh, joined the Women's Royal Army Come upon leaving school aged I 1977. She won a campage medal for service in North ireland and promoted to rank of sergeant and later to the bureau. She . reponsible for monitoring and spying on any soldier suspect ed of being a lesbian.

Once enough information had been gathered they would be interrogated until they

broke dewnsand confessed. Seven years ago she herself was interrogated after her letters were intercepted. "I was denied access to a lawyer." she said. They hold me they would not count-martial me and I had to put my notice in. It was made clear I should leave the Army."

Offenders spared jail more likely to return to crime

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

OFFENDERS who escape a jail sentence are more likely to prison, according to a Home Office study published today.

The figures for non-custodial penalties such as community and probation orders have been seized on by the Conservatives as proof that prison is more effective. David Maclean, the junior Home Office Minister, said last night: "This is positive proof that prison works. I think it is also a testament to improvements such as drug testing and more rehabilitation in

taking place in prisons." He added: "Among those in prison are generally the harder, more recividist offenders. To find there is a lower reconviction among the harder people generally sent to

"Will all the anti-prison groups now stop lying about the evils of prison when compared to community sen-

He said it had to be recognised that community sentences had a vital role in the criminal justice system but so did prison. The Home Office study shows that 53 per cent of all prisoners released from jail in 1993 were reconvicted within two years. The comparative figure in 1987 was 57 per cent and in 1990 was 52 per cent.
It also showed that 47 per cent of adult males discharged

for those given specified activifrom jail in 1993 were reconties in the community.

Reconviction rates for provicted within two years, 75 per cent of young male offenders

and 40 per cent of females. Among prisoners dis-charged in 1993 who were reconvicted, 29 per cent were given a prison sentence, 27 per cent fined; 15 per cent probation, 9 per cent community service and 5 per cent a

combination order.

The Home Office study found that 57 per cent of offenders given a community penalty in 1993 were reconvicted within two years of its commencement, a drop of two per cent on the 1991 figure.

For offenders given proba-tion orders starting in 1993 the figure was 60 per cent, but for those ordered to attend a probation centre the figure was 74 per cent and 61 per cent



Madean: figures show that prison works



Orangemen from Portadown, part of a parade of more than 600 Orangemen from both sides of the Irish Sea, passing St Paul's Cathedral yesterday

Brighton bomber reunited with IRA colleagues in jail

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA bomber Patrick Magee is back with IRA colleagues in Maze prison despite being transferred from England to serve his sentence specifically in a Northern Ireland prison where republican and loyalist inmates mix.

Magee was moved from Maghaberry jail to the strictly segregated Maze seven months ago. He had been in Maghaberry since a transfer from Full Sutton jail, near York, in September 1994. Magee is one of about a

dozen terrorists, originally transferred from English jails to Maghaberry in Co Antrim, who have since moved to the Maze where there is strict separation of loyalist and republican inmates.

A spokeswoman for the Northern Ireland office said: "It is a matter for the Northern Ireland Prison Service to make operational decisions on where prisoners are detained.

Privately the Government has said that those prisoners who are moved Maghaberry because it has an official policy of integration. But a report on conditions in

IRA terrorists transferred to the jail quickly started agitating for a move to join other terrorists in the Maze.

After an unnannounced inspection of Maghaberry in January 1996, Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Prisons, said: There were a number of prisoners, convicted of very serious offences in England, who had been allowed by the Home Secretary to be transferred from prisons in Eng-land. Their transfer was specificially to Maghaberry and their wish to transfer to the Maze refused."

EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

AN ELITE group of students at the foremost universities enjoys a lifestyle more in keeping with successful gradu-ates. according to research published today. A survey of 20 leading universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham and Manchester, found that one in ten students owns a mobile phone, one in

In spite of successive surveys showing increasing levels of debt, one in five graduates from the leading institutions said they would leave without an overdraft. However, many would have debts

Research, which carried out the survey of-5,000 final-year students, said: "People perceive students to be downtrodden, heavily in debt, drink too much and take too many drugs, but I don't think that is an accurate picture." One in four had tried drugs and nearly half said they could not live without alcohol.

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Upwardly mobile life of modern student

BY DAVID CHARTER

four has a car and one in three owns a personal computer.

of £2,000 or more. Martin Birchall, director of High Fliers

Leading article, page 21

10

ct

CBI role

Continued from page ! presidency, business would be getting an input once accorded only to the unions.

Britain will have the presidency of the EU for the first six months of next year. Mr Brown said the so called Presidency Working Group would consider ways of breaking down barriers in the energy, telecommunications and financial services industries to make a reality of the

single market. The business manifesto, to be called "New Labour's Business Plan for Britain", will be approved by Labour's nation-

al executive on Wednesday. Labour yesterday portrayed the document as further evidence that business has nothing to fear from a Labour government, and said that there would be more highprofile endorsements for Labour from business during the

campaign. Mr Blair and Mr Brown put the final touches to the document last Friday and it will be sent to thousands of businessmen across the coutnry.

Confirming the plans in an interview on BBC Television's On the Record programme, Mr Brown said: "I think this is a very important development because it shows that business and government can work together, both in Britain and Europe to achieve common aims.

Mr Brown, who has aiready ruled out raising income tax rates, said Labour's idea of a "progressive" tax system was to emphasise job creation rather than putting an extra burden on personal income. "I want to encourage jobs. I want to encourage incentives for jobs. I want particularly to get the long-term unemployed back to work and, therefore, I want a tax system that must balance the need to create jobs with the need for fairness," he

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Y DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT CINEMA history has been made by a little-known woman whose work has prob-

Rachel Portman is the first female composer to be nominated for an Oscar. She is one of 31 Britons to be nominated for the awards. which will be announced at the annual ceremony tonight. She was chosen for the music she wrote for Emma. Her score was inspired by folk music and aimed to support the dialogue without telling everyone when to laugh". Her other credits include Steve

Barron's Pinocchio, Norman Jewison's romantic comedy Only You and numerous television dramas. The number of Britons nominated for Oscars this year has almost doubled since

1996. Out of 24 categories. Britons have a starring role in Portman, 36. from Hasiemere, Surrey, nominated for

best original musical or com-

Cab driver

has a fare

night out

in Paris

By ADAM FRESCO

saying he had missed his

Dave Coombs, 41, from

Romford, east London, knew

that at 9.30pm the man did not

have time to catch the last

Eurostar or coach from Vic-

toria, so he offered to take him to Dover. The man was worried that there wouldn't be

transport at the other end and asked me to take him all the

but I had no idea how much it

would cost. I asked some guys

round trip of 580 miles, but it

was good fun. He got to his

It's a job you dream about,

way to Paris," he said.

flight to Paris.

 $MidRe_i$

the age of 14. She turned to film when her tutor at Oxford warned her that she would not make it as a "serious" classical composer because her music was too melodic.

Unknown faces

bask in Oscar

night limelight

Her career began when she wrote a score for a film called Privileged, about Oxford students and made entirely by its subjects, which was sold to the BBC. It starred Hugh Grant, Imogen Stubbs and James Wilby. She sent a tape to Alan Parker, who passed it to Sir David Puttnam, who asked Portman to rescore a Channel

4 film, Experience Preferred "I don't feel I'm a female composer, just a composer." Portman said. Every film she takes on requires a different compositional style. Yet, she believes that her personality emerges through each one, "in the way I shape melodies,

probably also the harmonies I lean towards". Other unsung heroes of

British cinema have also flown into Los Angeles, intent

time are Tim Harvey, the production designer of Kenneth Branagh's Hamlet, which is up for four awards. "It feels unreal, not the sort of thing that happens to me," he Also nominated for their work on Hamlet are Patrick Doyle for original dramatic score and Alexandra Byrne for costume design. Byrne said that choosing an outfit for the

ceremony had been "a night-

mare". Asked why she had not

made something special her-self, she explained that she

on having a good time. Among

car party circuit for the first

an architect and did a postcourse: "I gradually made the Stuart Craig, production de-signer on The English Patient (nominated for the art direction award) has been nominated five times before, winning for Dangerous Liai-

sons and Gandhi. Even so, he described the ceremony as nerve-racking. "It's a hugely publicised television show," he said. "If you are a backroom boy, you're not used to that. If you vin, you're talking to 2 billion people around the world. I'm

2 billion people." But one person who will not be going to the party — although his work has been indirectly recognised with a Sharrock, the production sound mixer on The English Patient. He worked on only the last third of the film, and the man who worked on the ther two thirds then had to hand over because of other work commitments - Chris Newman, an American — will be going instead. Sharrock yesterday: "It's a little hard, but there are no sour grapes. I already have won an

Oscar, for The Last Emperor.

as -60F and the oxygen level

would be insufficient to sus-

with him, possibly older child-

ren, and the fear is that they

A spokeswoman for British

Airways said that an investi-

gation had been launched into

the boy's death. "Safety is

paramount to British Airways

and we take this incident very

made by the London Bedding

Centre of Sloane Street. The

labels on the drawers have

gone, but the wardrobes still

appear to bear the marks of

the duchess's categorisation

system. The bathroom was

southwest London.



هكذا من الرجاب

Rachel Portman, nominated for her score for Emma. She began composing for films after being told she would never be a serious composer Tea at the beach for foreign invasion force

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

British nominees suffer big-night nerves at thought of saying thank you in front of 2 billion people

BRITAIN'S Oscar nominees rolled down to the beach in a convoy of limousines on Saturday to soothe their nerves with tea and scones before tonight's prize-giving ritual

turns them into winners and yards from the sands of Santa Monica, Kristin Scott Thommance in The English Patient, made quiet conversation. Marianne Jean-Baptiste, nominated as best supporting and Lies, disclosed that she had borrowed diamonds to deck herself out for the ceremony, and the director Antho-

ny Minghella patted everyone

on the back for a British

have taken over the asylum."

said Minghella, hot favourite

"It feels as if the lunatics

invasion of Hollywood.

his The English Patient, Lowbudget independent films have swamped the big stu-dios, with four out of five nominees for the award for best picture being made without the help of Tinseltown.

Ralph Fiennes, one of The

English Patient's 12 nomi-

nees, was a notable absence

from Bafta's annual pre-Oscar tea party, held at a hotel decorated in appropriately colonial style but sponsored by an American airline. The actor's co-star was a guest of honour. "I always ignored the fact that the cinema is a big. nasty industry," Scott Thomas said, dressing down in

sandals and plain beige

an arena I never really recog-

nised - but at least my

market-value has gone up."

"Now I've been thrown into

Scott Thomas may be up



Jean-Baptiste: named for supporting role against four rivals for the title

of best actress, but in the fashion world, here is the only name that counts. The British star is the woman every international designers wants to dress. Fashion shows are one thing, but en-

dorsement from a film-star at

the Oscars carries more

weight Scott Thomas:- tall.

chic, talented, tasteful - is

credit card.

eryone wanted to dress her," confirms her publicist, adding tantalisingly: "It's going to be a French designer." But which one? Scott Thornas, who lives in Paris, appears to have visited every couture house in the city. When she appeared in the front row of

seemed signed and sealed. Not so, reveals a Dior

spokeswoman. It is a similar story at Givenchy and Chanel. having ruled themselves --inless this is a case of elaborate double-bluff - attention turns to less likely candidates. Scott Thomas wore one of Christian Lacroix's creations for a Vanity Fair shoot last

year. Could he be in with a

chance? "We know she has

tried some Lacroix dresses," said a spokeswoman. "But

she has also gone to all the

in the meantime. Brenda

Goldfish is unique.

Like most other credit cards,

it's accepted wherever you see Visa and

MasterCard signs.

However, it earns you points towards

other conture houses."

John Galliano's show for

Christian Dior, the deal

role in Secrets and Lies, has plumped for Armani, for her Oscars outfit, - as has half of Hollywood. Emily Watson, who has been nominated for the same award, for Breaking The Waves, will wear a dress by the British designer Amanda Wakeley. Jean-Baptiste will be wearing a Gianni Versace dress. One Briton whose head has definitely not been turned by

Hollywood, despite the grow

is Mike Leigh, whose Secrets

and Lies has been nominated

been nominated as best direc-

tor, the film was created

nated as best actress for her

entirely through improvisation. "I have no plans to move here or work here," Leigh

There are a thousand

olaces I would rather make a

film about than Los Angeles.'

and a Batta, for The French Lexandra Byone with Kate Winslet on the set of Hamlet Lieutenant's Woman. **Boy stowaway** found dead in

THE body of a boy was found in the wheel bay of a British Airways jumbo jet after it landed at Gatwick yesterday. A TAXI driver waiting on the rank at Heathrow Airport picked up the fare of a lifetime Ground crew discovered the when a businessman ran out

> or suffocated to death as the plane flew at temperatures as low as -60F and an altitude of 32,000ft. Police searched beneath the flightpath for other stowaways who might have been accompanying the boy.
> It is believed that the child clambered aboard the aircraft minutes before take-off from Nairobi and was trapped in

on the radio. Some were saying £500 or £600 if it was on the meter, which was too He suffered no apparent injuexpensive for him. In the end I ries. He was certified dead at settled for £300 and he paid all the travelling expenses.
"I phoned my wife and told the scene and a post-mortem examination is to be held. her to get my passport ready. When I got home I offered him Inspector Peter Cooper, of Sussex Police, said: "One can only guess at what spurred him into doing something so something to eat but he just stayed in the cab. It was a

A spokesman for Surrey

holes bearing witness to the

countless photographs she

On the first floor, the duch-

ess had a three-room suite

with bedroom, dressing room

and bathroom. Centrepiece of

put on the walls.

dangerous."

jet from Kenya By KATHRYN KNIGHT misadventure. At the cruising altitude of this aircraft. the temperature could be as low

boy, aged between eight and The spokesman said that 12, in an aircraft that had the emergency services had suspected that the boy had arrived from Nairobi. He is believed to have frozen been accompanied because he was so young.
"It would be quite unusual for a boy of eight to stow away and fly to Britain on his own It is likely there were others

have fallen from the plane during its flight."

Last October two brothers the nosewheel bay before landing when the hydraulic system for lowering the wheels caught him by the legs. stowed away in the wheel bay of a jumbo jet on a ten-hour journey from Delhi to London. Pardeep Saini was able to cling to the wheel as the plane landed at Heathrow, but his brother, Vijay, 18, died after falling out over Richmond.

Pilot is grounded in drink

By A Staff Reporter

traffic controllers.

The 63-year-old pilot was escorted from the four-seater plane at Southampton airport after an erratic landing in which he was said to have swerved off the runway and almost hit a fence. The man refused to give a breath test to police, but was

Civil Aviation Authority.

Apply for the Goldfish

A PILOT who allegedly flew an aircraft while under the influence of alcohol is being

drinking. His keys were con-fiscated and he was released pending an inquiry by the The man, from Denham. Buckinghamshire, had been flying to Jersey when he strayed into London air space on Friday. Air traffic controllers at Heathrow contacted the aircraft, but were concerned with the response they received from the pilot. A CAA spokesman said: "We are looking into it." The man could be

charged with endangering air-

alarm

investigated after being ordered to land by alarmed air

seen by a police surgeon who confirmed that he had been

important meeting and I got a nice evening out." ambulance service, said: "This seriously." she said. people on the ground. looks like a tragic case of Duchess's home on market for £3m

By KATHERINE BERGEN

THE six-bedroom former home of Sarah, Duchess of York, goes on the market today for £3 million, or nearest offer. Unable to afford the monthly rent of £6,000 for the house,

Kingsbourne, on the Went-

worth estate in Sunningdale,

she has returned to her for-

mer marital home near by with the Duke of York. The duchess removed all her personal effects in a pantechnicon two weeks ago. but signs of the family linger. Lady and Barclay, her two dalmatians, are still at Kingsbourne, as are their

feeding bowls: The house where the duchess confided in Ruby Wax last



remodelled by the duchess in black and white, with a huge shower and tricom bath. This is where she kept her vast collection of essential oils and bath products.

The children's room are painted in yellow and white checks, although the whole house is in need of renovation. The paint is flaking from the window sills in the duchess's bedroom. The 12-acre garden where she played tenhis and swam with her daughters is likely to be one of the

main attractions for buyers. There is one other reminder of the duchess which will have to be dealt with before the agents Hamptons and Knight Frank can close the

sale - the stack of her post

which waits in the hall.

vouchers from Boots, Boots Opticians, Halfords, Do It All, Fads, Homestyle, Asda and up to £75 off your British Gas bill. Up to Not only that, it has no, repeat no, 52 days annual fee, a special introductory APR of 12.9% on transferred balances and up to 52 days interest free credit on purchases. interest free For an information pack call the number below or complete the coupon. credit. 0345 60 90 60 No annual fee. 18.9% craft or with endangering Goldfish* You'll be surprised what you can do with a Phone contride in BLOCK CAPITALS and send to: COLDFISH, FREEPOST SEA 2044, No. 13-15 Miscripest Rend, St. Le The Solution Card as spend by LPC Bank pix and is arrelated to present april 21 and cord and resident in the LUE, subject to sinks and conditions. APR 19,9% for Tapescations, A handleg too of 1,1% (or minimum 21 50) will be charged in all Cash Anaeccs other from Bulance Examines (APR 22,1%). Other than a fived rate of APR 12,9% on Extence Examines for 6 points from opening of an account, all credit charges and APRs are variable. No interest on Tapescations it bullets for Bulance Examines are clear Cash Advances from the date of anisoness payment regularly is 5% of the destauration belongs, with colors and caller (Lash Advances Anaelly minimum payment regular) is 5% of the destauration belongs. for day dain, reference states projets have the date of Transaction, housest pupilite on Balance Tennileys and other Date Advance. It is not the balance these, Western benefities are balance from P.O. Box 4720 December 11 SPD. Guidale Points are sound on its

Disagreement on format puts TV debate in jeopardy



Mawhinney: no reason

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND CAROL MIDGLEY

THE much-heralded election debate between John Major and Tony Blair was in the balance last night after the Conservatives accepted the format proposed by the broadcasters but Labour hardened their objec-

The Labour leadership made plain that in today's negotiations between the parties and the BBC and ITV it would insist on audience participation in the debate. However Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, said that Labour wanted to pull the plug because it feared that Mr Blair

would crack under tough questioning. There were strong signs last night that Lord Irvine of Lairg. Mr Blair's negotiator, would take a tough line in today's talks. Apart from saying the audience should be allowed to question the leaders, he will also back the right of Paddy Ashdown to an equal hearing. outting another obstacle in the way.

Although Labour says it wants a debate, it sees no reason in giving it to the Conservatives on their terms. Labour believes that Mr Major is pressing for the confrontation now as a desperate measure to try to bite into the Labour lead. It believes that with Mr Major trailing so far behind in the polls, a draw would be

a good result for him in the debate and sees no reason why Mr Blarr or Mr Ashdown should bend over to accept the Conservative rules of engagement.

There is also irritation at the broadcasters for accepting the broad Conservative terms in their eagerness to stage what would be an historic electoral event But Dr Mawhinney said yesterday that the Conservatives had accepted the 'fundamental principles" of proposals from the broadcasters.

He said: "So far as we are concerned there is no reason for the debate now not to go ahead." Dr. Mawhinney said the broadcasters agreed the main focus should be

two mum leaders, that it should be of sufficient length to be a true test. and that Mr Ashdown should be included on a "fair basis". The debate should be conducted with dienit, and not descend to a "bearon atmosphere

Although Dr Mawhinner's statement did not say it, the Tories will today argue for two Wi-minute dehates. They accept there should be an audience in the studio but that there should not be audience participation.

There were also signs vesterday that the BBC is losing patience. Senior BBC executives feared that the broadcasters were being used as

he distributed debate between the pawns in a point-scoring match. between Labour and the Tories and had considered calling of negotiations. Labour's announcement last week that it wanted audience participation in the debate was regarded as another late attempt to move the goalposts, despite the fact that discussions about a possible debate have been taking place since

> A source said: "The formats will have to be finalised by Thursday of this week to have a fighting chance of going ahead. After Thursday we are into Easter.

The debates are provisionally scheduled for April 13, 20, or 27. That means the first debate will

Sunday. For this to happen everything must be agreed and finalised by this week otherwise it becomes impossible to organise things in

Today representatives of the three parties will meet Marion Bowman. deputy controller of factual pro-

grammes for the ITV Network. There are also plans for a meeting with Tony Hall, head of news and current affairs at the BBC. Michael Dobbs, the thriller writer and former Tory party deputy chairman, will represent Mr Major. Mr Ashdown has appointed Lord Holme of Cheltenham as his

Al Fayed kept no record of alleged payments to MPs

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

THE businessman Mohamed Al Fayed, who triggered the eash-for-questions controversy, kept no record of his payments to MPs but claims that Neil Hamilton accepted between £40,000 and £60,000.

It emereged yesterday that in his evidence to Sir Gordon Downey, the parliamentary standards commissioner who is investigating the affair, Mr Al Fayed appears to have grossly underestimated the amount he paid to Tim Smith. the Tory MP for Beaconsfield.

Transcripts obtained by The Times of Mr Al Fayed's evidence to the Downey inquiry disclose that he did not keep records of his alleged cash payments to MPs. Challenged directly by the inquiry about the amount of money he gave MPs, he replied: "It is really difficult to remember this. Hamilton maybe took £40,000, £50,000 or £60,000. Smith maybe about £10.000."

Mr Smith, who resigned as Northern Ireland Minister in October 1994, ten days after the Prime Minister was told about the undeclared transactions, has told Sir Gordon that he received between E18,000

Mr Al Fayed bitterly criti-cised Mr Smith and Mr Hamilton, MP for Tatton. who were endorsed as election candidates by their Conservative associations at the weekend. He told Sir Gordon: People like that have no dignity, no honour; they will

ieu their mothers for money. The new disclosures came as the Government voiced hopes that the sleaze controversy would subside. One Tory MP, Richard Shepherd, backed calls for Parliament to be recalled to enable the Downey report to be considered. But there were signs that Labour, as well as Tory lead-

ers, was trying to move attention to campaign issues. One Labour source said that sleaze had overshadowed several topics the party had hoped to highlight last week. Michael Heseltine, the Dep-

uty Prime Minister, said yes-terday he would be happy for Mr Hamilton and Mr Smith to visit his constituency during the campaign, adding: "I would go to both of their constituencies and campaign for them, because in Britain we have a rather quaint idea of justice: you're innocent until

you're proved guilty."
Alison Foster, a trainee solicitor who told a Sunday



Foster: question over her legal future

newspaper that she had put cash for Mr Hamilton into envelopes while a personal assistant to Mr Al Fayed, may face questions about her future career in the legal world. Mr Hamilton, in a submission to Sir Gordon, has asked whether she is suitable to be a solicitor having admitted taking part "in illicit

In his evidence to Sir Gordon, Mr Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods, is also highly critical of Sir Andrew Bowden. the MP for Brighton Kemp-

town, to whom he was introduced by the lobbyist Ian Greer. Sir Andrew is being investigated by Sir Gordon after admitting receiving £5,300 from Mr Greer for his constituency fighting fund. He has denied being paid £5,000

by Mr Al Fayed. Mr Al Fayed maintained that he had given the money to Sir Andrew, and that the MP had telephoned the day next day to increase his demand. The relationship was ended. Mr Al Fayed, who recruited

Mr Greer to help him to overturn a report by the Department of Trade and Industry into his takeover of Harrods, which had called him a liar and a cheat, told the Downey inquiry that he felt "disgust" that MPs were prepared to accept financial in-ducements to do his bidding.

But under cross-examina-

tion he was unable to match

the date of the alleged pay-ment to Mr Hamilton with questions the MP had asked about the House of Fraser in the Commons. He was also questioned about the introduction of crucial new witnesses on the eve of of the libel trial against The Guardian in September 1996, two years after the newspaper had published its original cash-for-questions allegations. Having always maintained he had paid the MPs himself, or through Mr Greer, he claimed days before the trial was due to begin that his secretaries, Ms Foster and ins bond, had "stu lopes full of cash". Mr Al Fayed told Sir Gordon: "I am 64. Your memory goes and you cannot remember everything." But he insisted that he had not confused payments to Mr Hamilton, who has denied receiving money from him: "How, if I gave him the money with my own hands?"



Tony Blair talked to more than 100 of his party's prospective parliamentary candidates in marginal seats on a conference telephone link from his home in Islington, north London, yesterday. "We are doing well, but it

is important that we are never complacent, that we continue to persuade people of the case not just against the Conservatives but for today's Labour Party." he said. The exercise will be repeated several times.

Women ignored by all parties, study says

BY JAMES LANDALE

THE three main political parties are ignoring the views of women, according to a report published today.
Politicians are failing to

address the specific concerns of women, as well as refusing to take on board their opinions on mainstream issues. The conclusion comes in a report called What Women Want on Politics in which the views of almost 10,000 women are

compared to policies.
With L5 million more women voters than men, the authors claim that women could have a key impact on the general election on May 1. The report, carried out by the Women's Communication Centre, a campaign group formed two years ago to promote female perspectives on political debate, says that key womens' issues are sidelined by the parties. They include decent childcare measures, domestic violence, parttime workers' rights, low and equal pay, support for carers, breast cancer research, remov-ing VAT on sanitary

At the same time, the report says, women's views on mainstream issues are ignored. For example, while the parties concentrate on combatting unemployment, women are more concerned with equal pay, access to pensions, flexible hours and parental leave. On Europe, women are more concerned with social rights and protection than a single currency or sovereignty.
The report also finds that

women are more prepared to extra education, health and pensions than their male counterparts. The report is being sent to all sitting MPs and prospective candidates in marginal seats.

DAlmost one in three women have not yet decided how to vote, according to a MORI

Veteran MPs not to stand

Labour Party chiefs are to draw up shortlists of potential candidates to replace two veteran MPs who have announced their retirement.

Doug Hoyle, 67, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said he would not recontest Warrington North, where he has a majority of 12.622 Norman Hogg. 59, a former deputy chief whip. said he would not fight Cumbernauld and Kilsyth where he has a 9.215 majority. Bryan Davies, Labour's higher education spokesman, and Mike Watson - whose constituencies are disappear-

ing - are frontrunners for the

Labour signs football clubs

Labour will unveil plans today to set up homework centres at Premiership foot-ball clubs to help to raise children's literacy standards. Pupils who are having trouble in class will be encouraged to do their homework at the clubs after school before play-ing a game of football, David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, will say. Chelsea, Sheffield Wednesday, Newcastle United and Arsenal have joined the scheme and will help to set up pilot study support centres.

Muslims urged to take part

A leading Muslim body has condemned Islamic extremists who have called on the Muslim community to take no part in the election. The Muslim College, headed by Dr Zaki Badawi, a wellknown moderate, has advised that all Muslims should take part. "Taking part is a religious as well as a civic duty," the college says in a document published today. "The consequences will affect all of us and to remain aloof can be regarded as a lack of concern for the community."

PM's wife fears ignominious exit

BY JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL REPORTER

NORMA MAJOR called yesterday for an end to the "ignominious" tradition under which an ousted Prime Minister is forced to leave Downing Street within hours of his defeat at the polls.

While she insisted that John Major was going to win the election, the Prime Minister's wife said any departing leader should be able to leave with dignity. Unlike other world leaders, British Prime Ministers are hustled out of their offices on the day they lose the election. If Labour wins in the early hours of May 2, Mr Major would be likely to deliver his resignation to the Queen in the morning and be out of Downing Street by early

afternoon. The speed of departure has led to embarrassing moments for men who until hours before were running the country. Sir Edward Heath was left homeless in 1974 and forced to live in an aide's flat for several months. Haroid Wilson was reduced to sneaking his possessions out the back of Downing

In the United States, ousted Presidents have several months between their defeat and their successor's installation. In Canada and New Zealand, Prime Minis-

ters have about a week to pack their bags. In a newspaper interview Mrs Major said she believed the Tories would win. But she expressed concern at the way

Prime Ministers' were removed. "One is

hustled out rather ignominiously, which

I think is shameful," she said. "I don't think that any incoming Prime Minister actually would expect the outgoing Prime Minister to disappear by lunchtime the next day. She added: "I think someone should

take a grip of the situation. I mean no outgoing Prime Minister is going to want to cling on. You want to make a fairly smart move. But one should be able to do it with dignity."

An explanation emerged yesterday for Mrs Major's downbeat appearance dur-ing the early days of the election npaign. She has been spending time looking after her mother, who is suffering from cancer. In her interview she said: "She has cancer but we think she is





Rothermere: spoke of Mail's independence

Tories may lose Fleet Street allies

JOHN MAJOR suffered another sethack yesterday when it was reported that Associated Newspapers had tempered its traditionally staunch support for the Tory party.

Lord Rothermere, chairman of the group that publishes the Daily Mail, the Mail on Sunday and the London Evening Standard, was quoted as saying: "I don't think we will actually endorse anybody. I don't believe in newspapers supporting parties. The proper duty is to report what hap-pens. The Daily Mail is

independent. It has always embraced the policy of the Tories because the policy of the Labour Party was not acceptable," Lord Rothermere told the Independent on Sunday, adding that this time, however, "we have two political parties with policies not terribly different, the differ-

ence being the question of credibility."

Only the opposition of the Daily Mail's Editor. Paul Dacre, was said to have stopped the paper backing Mr Blair. He is said to have argued that this would anger diehard Tory readers. The

Evening Standard might support Labour, Lord Rothermere

Last night, Peter Wright, the deputy editor of the Daily Mail, said that his newspaper "will be reporting the campaigns of all the parties with its usual vigour. Only when we have a full picture of what the parties have to offer will we consider offering our readers advice on voting

preferences." Last week Mr Major lost. another former ally, The Sun, which declared on the front page its conversion to Mr Blair's new Labour.

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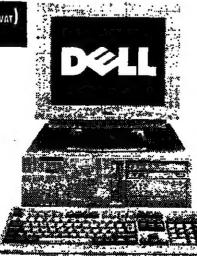
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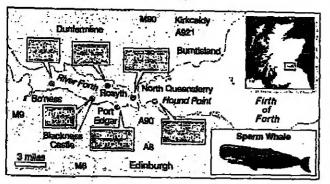
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Fate of stranded whale hinges on high tide



By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

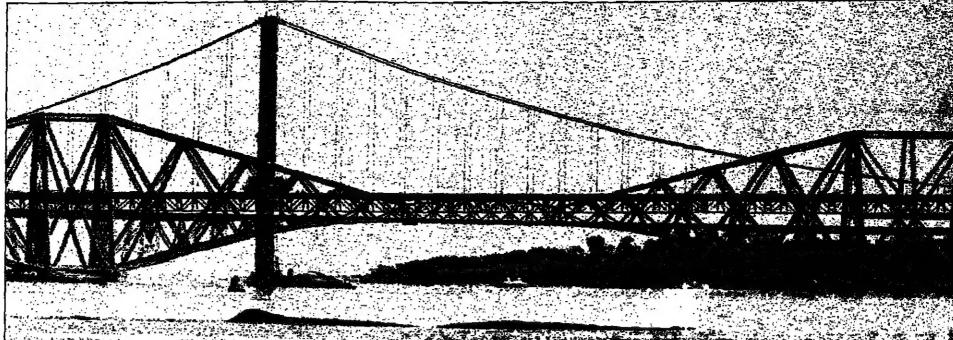
THOUSANDS of sightseeers armed with binoculars, cameras and telescopes lined both banks of the River Forth yesterday to watch a flotilla of boats attempt to shepherd a 40ft sperm whale to the safety

of the deep ocean. There was a carnival atmo-sphere in North and South Queensferry as hundreds of sightseers from all over Scotland caught a glimpse of the first sperm whale in the Forth

In the river, which was calm in the bright March sunshine, a mammoth operation involving II boats, the Ministry of Defence, Force Navigation. British Petroleum, the Coastguard, the Force Road and Railbridge Operators and the police was underway to prevent the whale beaching on the banks of the Forth.

The rescue attempt was masterminded by Deep Sea World, the marine centre and aquarium based on the banks the Forth at North Queensferry. Divers and marine biologists at the centre re optimistic that with the help of the strong spring tide they could force the 40-ton whale out to the relative safety of the North Sea. But they will not know for certain until

successful. Yesterday's attempt was the third in three days to persuade other sperm whales waiting



The whale had to pass beneath the Forth bridges to reach the deeper waters of the North Sea, but last night was stranded on a sandbank. Rescuers hoped the tide would move it

Todd, curator of Deep Sea today whether they have been World and the man coordinating the rescue, said the whale was causing a great deal of concern. "If it beaches, it is in serious trouble. The whale has become confused by the shape of the Firth of Forth, the high level of shipping activity and

bridges. The strong spring tides have also caused some problems."

Last night the whale appeared to become stuck on a shell of sandbank beyond the bridges not far from the open sea. Dr Todd said it was a small setback, but he was not the traffic on both Forth

is likely to get off with the floodtide and we will be keeping the MoD boat and the BP in the area until it

The sperm whale, Physeter catodon, has evolved to live in deep water so effectivly that it

soon as it is unsupported by the water its massive weight crushes its internal organs giving would-be rescuers little chance of helping it.

ه يكذا من الاعلى

The whale in the Forth is believed to have lost its bearings during its annual migra-

starving.

flotilla of boats, including three BP tugs which normally

fish and octopus and there is

very little for it to eat in the

Forth. But conservationists

say that it is in much greater

danger of stranding than of

lauch, a coastguard vessel and a Forth road bridge safety vessel, had pushed the whale beyond the Forth bridges. Shipping in the river, the

are, the Maid of the Forth, a

commercial ferry, the MoD

Britain after the English chan-

Governors sack disciplinarian girls' school head

By David Charter, Education correspondent

A HEADMISTRESS who imposed a uniform code on her staff has been sacked by governors after teachers and parents lost confidence in her

strict leadership style. Yvonne Graham, described as a disciplinarian by parents, took charge of the all-girl Clifton High School, in Bristol, four terms ago. She caused a stir after she arrived at the successful independent. school by insisting that all male staff wore white shirts and ties and by banning the female teachers from wearing

Mrs Graham also drew criticism from parents-at the £8,500-a-year school for clamping down-firmly on a traditional end-of-term prank by sixth formers last summer. Greg Cairns, president of the school council, the governing body, said yesterday: "There was a loss of confidence

things can give rise to that. It was not a personality clash per se, and it was at a matter of conduct or capability. There is no one single issue which gave rise to the loss of confidence. This deciwas reached after some

et allit

gret. Mrs Graham is a very capable lady, certainly in terms of skills as a headmistress. There was nothing

wrong with that." He would not comment further on the reasons for her dismissal. In her short time at the school, A-level grades rose per pupil in 1995 to 23.7 last summer. A consistent 99 per cent of girls achieved five or more top-grade GCSEs.

Mrs Graham, who married an Army officer and has two grown-up sons, was formerly ad of Lavant House School in Chichester, and arrived in January last year at Clifton, where old girls include Jo Durie, the tennis player, and Sara Keays, former secretary then a Conservative Cabinet

concerned about Mrs Graham's strict regime and, in esponse to a sixth-form stunt last May. Dozens of girls dressed up as nuns for a fancy-dress prank, but found themselves suspended and sent home for the day by Mrs

Mrs Graham was unavailable for comment yesterday.

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10. Employment

Argument centres on Labour's approach to the job

EVEN with unemployment falling and the number of jobs growing, poll evidence suggests that jobs and the number of people out of work will be a key factor in the election. Though the main parties are close on a range of economic issues, the labour market is an area of sharp political division.

Conservatives support contin-uing and indeed greater deregulation of the labour market. A jobs market hindered by as few regula-tions as possible is one in which unemployment will fall, and employment will grow, they argue, Labour and the Liberal Democrats, which have only slight policy differences, believe in greater inter-vention in the labour market through some degree of regulation and through government measures to improve skills and to create jobs for the young and the long-term unemployed. Jobs, in their view,

will come through the better economic growth produced by a more skilled workforce and regulation will provide a floor of minimum employment standards to protect

people at work. In the election, the argument over jobs will focus on a handful of Labour policies, rather than the Conservatives' jobs record since 1979. Labour is proposing to intro-duce a statutory national minimum wage, to end the opt-out from the social chapter of the European Union's Maastricht treaty, and to pass legislation requiring employers to recognise trade unions for collective bargaining if a majority of their workforce wants it. Tony Blair insists, however, that there will be no return to compulsory union membership under the closed shop system of the 1960s and 1970s. In addition, Labour is proposing a one-off windfall tax on the profits

of privatised utilities to fund a new programme which will guarantee a job. community service or training place to 250,000 young people on the dole. The windfall levy will also pay for a £75-per-week subsidy to employers who offer jobs to the long-term unemployed. Labour's quid pro quo for this job creation will be tougher measures to withdraw benefits from people who refuse offers of training or jobs.

Labour claims that such combinations of carrots and sticks have been effective in putting people back to work in Australia and several American states. The Tories do not reject the principle of inwork benefits and employment subsidies — they have launched several pilot programmes along the same lines - but they argue that Labour's blanket approach will prove costly, could encourage employers to sack workers to take

THE POLITICS

advantage of the subsidies, and will waste money by paying for iobs that would have been created even without the state handouts

The Conservatives see inward investment by foreign companies as a clear indicator of the success of their deregulation strategy, though inward investors rurely cite employment conditions as the prime reason for their location decisions Since 1979, inward-investor companies have provided or guaranteed 790,000 jobs.

Labour counters that the Conservarives' policy of job market deregulation has led directly widespread feelings of work insecurity, undermining the social benefits of the reduction in unemployment since 1942. Economists are debating, however, how exten-

UNEMPLOYMENT

Workers unemployed and claiming benefits (Thousands)

THE TORY JOBER OF THE CO

spe such no insecurity actually is Europe is central to all these arguments. In parallel with the project in the 1980s to create a single market, the European Commission sought to protest employees with new regulatory maiatives The Mastricht treaty social chapter, an agreement of ways to process new job regulations is the latest of these. So far the social chapter directives have assered fairly innocuous issues such as parental leave, but the Tories claim that other, more contentious, policies could be added to the social chapter it the UK signed up. Ministers claim that abandoning the UK's options from the social chapter will lead to the loss of at least halt a million jobs, and will damage precisely the competitive advantage that has seen inwardinvestor companies coming to the UK, rather than other EU states.

The Conservatives argue that Europe's persistently high unemployment and poor job creation performance are direct results of its over-regulated labour market, and contrast sharply with the falling unemployment and accelerating employment growth of the United States, whose labour market is seen

as highly deregulated and flexible. Labour's plans for a minimum wage have nothing to do with the social chapter, though they are often thought to be connected. The key issue, on which Labour has been studiously silent, is the level at which the minimum wage would be set. If the wage were set at a very low level, such as £2.50 an hour, it would have little impact, but would leave Labour's trade union supporters dissatisfied. If it were set at 13.50 or higher, some economists believe that hundreds of thousands of unskilled jobs could be destroyed. Others point out, however, that the US has a national minimum wage, which has not prevented it from generating millions of jobs for unskilled workers.

The Tories see old Labour, and especially the unions, lurking in the minimum wage and union recognition proposals. But Labour insists that the main purpose of the minimum wage is to prevent employers from exploiting the weifare system by underpaying their workers and forcing them to claim government benefits.

As for the unions, they are unlikely to play an important part in the electoral debate about employment. In 1979, they had a central role in the election. Now they are rarely mentioned, even by the Tories: a demonstration of the way the political argument has shifted from industrial relations to the creation of jobs.

Pay gap has grown with demand for new skills

IN 1979, total employment in Britain stood at 25.5 million. In February 1997, it was 20.1 million — a net job growth over the Conservative years of 655,000. In 1979, unemployment had risen to 1.2 million. Now it stands at 1.8 million. 659,500 higher, even after falling fairly constantly for the

On such stark, simple facts. one judgment of Britain's jobs record under the Conservatives can be reached - that the UK's job performance has been indifferent at best.

However, recalling the employment issues on which the 1979 election was largely fought - Britain's industrial disruptive role of the trade unions — the record over the past 18 years has been an unqualified success.

With 13.3 million emolovees in trade unions in 1979. Britain lost 29.5 million working days through strikes. Now, with union membership down to 60 per cent of its 1979 level and still falling despite the recent recovery of employment itself. strikes are all but unknown in the private sector, and the number of days lost through strikes last year was just over a million, only 4 per cent of its 1979 total. Not for nothing is the reform of the unions usually cited as the Conservative Government's most significant achievement.

But to choose industrial peace, or the number of jobs, as the sole measure of the Conservative employment record is to belie the shifting complexities that characterise the British labour market. Between the start and the possible endpoint of the Tory period there have been a number of other important changes which make Britain's labour market today significantly different from the way it was when Margaret Thatcher

took office. Labour markets do not change in isolation, and the transformations of the British labour market have taken place against the background of two fundamental and linked trends which have af-

THE RECORD

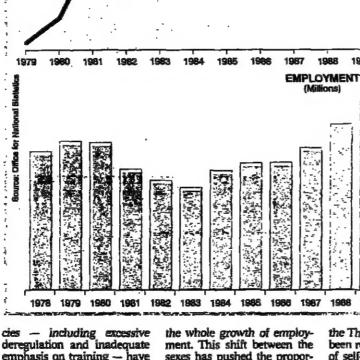
fected economies across the world - the shifting pattern of world trade and the application of new technologies.

Both moves have put strong pressure on jobs in advanced industrial countries such as Britain. As newly emerging economies have entered the world market, multinational firms have been forced to keep their costs highly competitive by seeking lower unit-labour costs and wage rates, an objective which has often been easier to achieve in highly deregulated labour markets. At the same time, contin-

have meant that many jobs which used to be heavily labour-intensive now either no longer exist, or can be done with a fraction of the workforce. The two trends have often been intertwined Bookings made in the UK for some airline tickets, for example, used to be manually processed across the counter. Now they are handled by cheaper ticket operators based in South East Asia, linked to Britain by telephones, modems and computers. Changes in trade and technology have gone hand in hand. and clerical jobs have been lost in Britain as a result.

The other side of this coin, however, has been rapid growth in business services and finance, both industries in which Britain has been able to exploit its comparative advantages with the help of technology and the easing of trade barriers and capital controls. Financial services in all their forms today employ the same proportion of Britain's workforce as manufacturing.

This is the kind of evidence used by ministers to support their claim that a more flexible labour market has been the most critical component in Britain's increased prosperity and successful economic performance. Labour under Tony Blair has officially acknowledged these claims, at least in part, but has also suggested that misguided economic poli-



cies - including excessive emphasis on training - have exposed workers to exploitation, have lost jobs that could have been preserved, and have damaged society by destroying job security and undermining long-term investment and planning.

While the direction of the

labour market reforms has been clear in the past 18 years, the precise effects of the changes have been hard to gauge, partly because of gaps between the Government's main ways of measuring jobs. While total net employment grew by 2.5 per cent in the 18 years from 1979 to 1996 on the basis of the employer-based surveys used by the Treasury, there are other statistics which suggest a somewhat more dynamic performance. For example, using the Government's Labour Force Survey. which is based on interviewing households, employment since 1979 has risen by 1.28 million, or 5.2 per cent.

Looking at this more generous estimate in greater detail helps to explain some of the pessimism which persists about jobs. Although total employment in Britain has risen, the number of jobs held by men has gone down by 4.6 per cent during the Tory years. million in jobs held by women has more than accounted for

sexes has pushed the proportion of all jobs held by women up from 39 per cent in 1979 to

45 per cent now. There have also been marked shifts in the agestructure of the workforce. with many older workers forced or encouraged to take early retirement, to be replaced by younger workers on lower wages, whose pensions have also been cheaper to

The types of employment have also seen significant changes. In 1979, the number of people in full-time jobs stood at 18.7 million. Now it is down to 16.7 million, a drop of more than 10 per cent. Fulltime jobs used to comprise 77 per cent of the total. Now they are less than two thirds. Parttime working, seen as a hall-mark of the UK's more flexible labour market, is up from 3.9 million to 5.7 million - a 45 per cent rise, with part-time work now accounting for more than a fifth of Britain's jobs

Most of this part-time activity has reflected the preferences of women with family responsibilities, but a large propor-tion of the part-time working has been involuntary - about 15 per cent of part-time employees say they would prefer to have full-time jobs. And the greater entrepreneurship of

the Thatcherite 1980s has also been reflected in the large rise of self-employment, up by 86 per cent from 1.8 million in 1979 to 3.3 million now. As a share of all jobs, self-employment has risen from 7 per cent

to 13 per cent. There have been clear switches between sectors: a 42 per cent fall in employment in primary industries such as mining, and a fall of more than 30 per cent in manufacturing employment, which at 7.2 million in 1979 comprised 30 per cent of the total. At 4.9 million now, it is down to

19 per cent. At the same time, the number of people working in business and financial services has more than doubled, to 3.6 million. And despite the Government's drive to reduce public sector numbers, the total number of people working in the public and social services is up by a fifth, to 1.3 million.

Regions such as East Anglia and the South West have seen sharp rises overall in jobs, by more than 20 per cent, though the South East still holds sway in the job market, taking a total share of 34 per cent of the jobs in 1979 and almost unchanged now at 33 per cent.

Finally, in occupational terms, the decline of manual employment continues, down by more than 3.5 million since 1979, or 31 per cent. Jobs in

service areas such as sales are up in total by 19 per cent, while professional and managerial iobs now form the largest part of total employment, at 36 per cent or 9.3 million in all.

These drastic changes in the demand for different skills and occupations have been the main cause of the widening in earnings inequality throughout the Tory period, although some Labour politicians would also blame the less progressive tax structure and the general climate of "Tory

The precise extent to which

the rich have become relatively richer and the poor have got poorer is a matter of intense dispute among economists. This is not a question which can be settled objectively by any one set of figures, since the answer depends critically on whether the comparisons are made between individuals or households, and on whether welfare benefits, in cash and in kind, are taken into account. What almost nobody denies is that the gap between rich and poor has widened. The question to be answered is whether this has been caused by changes in the nature of technology, trade and employment, and whether it can be narrowed by putting a different party in power.

> Next week: law and order

THE POLITICIANS

GILLIAN SHEPHARD

Age: 57. Education: North Walsham High School, Modern languages at St Hilda's.

Family: two stepsons. Experience: former schools inspector, county council-lor. Became MP for Norfolk South West in 1987 and rose through Treasury, becom-ing Employment Secretary, moving to Agriculture, Education then merged Education and Employment.

Politics: dry economically. Major loyalist and friend, cited as possible centrist contender for leadership.

DAVID BLUNKETT

Age: 49

Education: Royal Normal College for the Blind, Shrewbury, night school and day release, then polidcs at Sheffield University. Family: three children at local comprehensive.

Experience: former leader of Sheffield City Council. Became MP for Sheffield Brightside in 1987. Health and Education before taking both Education and Employment. Likely to retain his post if Labour wins. the old "soft Left" in Labour, Performance: competent now moved to the Centre.



likeable, privately witty. Solid speaker, criticised by the Right as insufficiently



Has huge constituency support and is trusted by Tony

and determined.

WHAT THEY SAID

molovment must be the main preoccupation of eco-nomic policymakers in the

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor The extent of job insecurity is going to be a central feature of the general

Tony Blair My father did not wait

around ... he got on his bike and went out looking for Norman Tebbit, Employment

Rising unemployment and the recession have been the price that we've had to pay to get inflation down. That is a price well worth paying.

1.8 million unemployed.

with 68 per cent in the EU.

Secretary 1981-83

Norman Lamont, Chancellor 1990-93

What I am saying Is that job insecurity is a state of mind. The reality Is, by creating a flexible labour market, we nave actually been creating len Lang, President

month since Thatcher first

came to office has un-

employment been lower than it was when Labour was

general secretary TGWU

of the Board of Trade

it's a recession when your neighbour loses his job, it's a depression when you lose YOUR OWN.

Harry S. Truman, US President, 1945-52

CONSERVATIVES



performance pay.

Employment continuing drive for greater flexibility will push up employment by making employing more people more attractive.

Unemployment: will continue to fall with more flexibility, and by attacks on dole fraud through Jobseeker's Allowance and moves such as Project Work. New emphasis on long-term unemployed, but no new schemes.

Training: modern apprenticeship scheme, support for Training and Enterprise Councils.

Social chapter: keep opt-out, oppose EU job regulation. Minimum wage: oppose minimum wages, promote decentralisation of pay bargaining, individual pay setting and

Unions: outlaw strikes with "disproportionate" effects. Pay: promote decentralisation of pay bargaining, individual pay setting and performance pay. Public sector pay bill

Boardrooms: continued self-regulation of executive pay and corporate governance.

LABOUR



Employment greater economic growth will lead to more jobs.

Unemployment: windfall tax on privatised utilities will fund youth employment and training programme. Welfare to work gramme that will move people from the dole. E75 weekly subsidies to employers to take on long-term unemployed.

Training: individual learning accounts, matching funding Social chapter: end opt-out to provide minimum job

standards in line with other European employees. Minimum wage: legislation to provide a minimum wage with level recommended by low pay commission.

Unions: no roll-back of 1980s law, but statutory union recognition for collective bargaining where majority want it. Pay: pay bill freeze for top civil servants in first year. Tight cash limits on public sector pay.

Boardrooms: new powers for utility regulators to counter

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS



Employment: boost jobs by investing in infrastructure, and introduce regional development agencies.

Unemployment: investment in skills, welfare-to-work programme including benefits paid as a voucher to employers. Benefit transfer scheme for long-term unemployed.

Training: work experience part of education from age 14. All adults entitled to retraining. Refundable training levy of 2 per cent of an employer's

Social chapter: sign the social chapter.

Minimum wage: regionally varied minimum wage. Unions: legal framework of employment rights, including union membership.

Pay: review equal pay legislation.

Boardrooms higher top rates of income tax. Direct shareholder elections of companies' executive remuneration

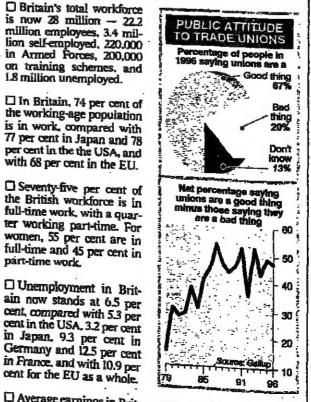


ain now stands at 6.5 per cent, compared with 5.3 per cent in the USA, 3.2 per cent in Japan, 9.3 per cent in Germany and 12.5 per cent in France, and with 10.9 per cent for the EU as a whole.

> Average earnings in Britain are £351.70 a week -£18,300 a year. For men the weekly figure is £391.60. and for women £283.

part-time work.

☐ Best independent fore-



casts suggest that employment in the UK will grow by about 1.2 million by 2001, or about 5 per cent - with more than two thirds of that growth in jobs held by

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Synagogue accused of sex bias over

Gryn post

synagogues is divided over woman as senior rabbi. Accusations of prejudice have been made against officials of the West London Synagogue, the renowned centre of Reform Judaism formerly led by the

late Hugo Gryn.

Members of the congrega-tion want the synagogue's popular associate minister. Rabbi Jacqueline Tabick, to succeed Dr Gryn, who died last year. The synagogue coun-cil has decided to look elsewhere. Insiders at the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain (RSGB) and the synagogue itself believe that Mrs Tabick is opposed because she is a woman. A petition in support of the synagogue for many years, has attracted 500 signatures.

Dr Richard Stone, a vice-president of the RSGB and a worshipping member of the synagogue, said: "I feel that she has not been treated well. A large number of people feel the same thing. I have no doubt that there is prejudice against having a woman in such a senior position. It is very unfortunate, because for the ordinary person the most



Rabbi Tabick: is said

obvious difference between Reform and Orthodox Jewry whether it should appoint a is that we have women rabbis, and men and women can sit together in the synagogue."

Another insider, who asked not be named, said: "She is a charming and capable person. But they won't give her the job because she is not a man. It is

as simple as that." The Jewish Chronicle reports claims that support for Rabbi Tabick is less widespread than had been thought, and that some members had been "coerced" to sign the

With more than 2,000 families, the West London Synagogue, founded more than 150 membership of any syna-gogue in the country. It became known far beyond the Jewish community under the leadership of Rabbi Gryn, a Holocaust survivor who became a nationally known broadcaster and who was assiduous in helping to improve is viewed as one of Britain's most important rabbinical

The synagogue's rabbinical appointment council has considered various proposals, including appointing three rabbis to replace Dr Gryn, with Rabbi Tabick as "pasto-ral" rabbi. Rabbi Tabick rejected these plans but is understood still to be considering modified proposals.

In a letter to merubers of the congregation, seen by The Times, the synagogue's president. David Leuw, and its ferred to "action on the part of a few of our members - which can only be harmful - to question the decision of our



Brave hearts: Heather Ripley with her daughter Josie, 9, at the site of her latest environmental protest in Scotland

Actress moves from screen to green

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A CHILD star of the film Chitty Chitty Bang Bang has taken on the role of an environmental protester. Heather Ripley, who in the film helps her screen father, Dick Van Dyke, to overthrow a monarch who hates children. now travels the country trying to defend nature.

At the weekend she pitched Wood, East Lothian, where a company intends to fell 300 oak trees. The protesters are camped around a flag of the Scottish lion on Clints Dod hill, near the village of Stenton. Ms Ripley, 37, who also worked as a model in the United States, is accompanied by her daughter Josie, 9, and

Her previous performances



On film: as Jemima, centre, in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

stretched from the Outer Hebrides to the Newbury bypass route. She joined the tunnel protester Swampy on a dem-onstration against nuclear submarines at Faslane naval

She was discovered by Holfor the "eco-warriors" have lywood producers while

working in repertory in Dundee and spent 14 months making Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, which came out in 1968. Her environmental cam-

paigning was inspired by a ilm of Australian protesters who chained themselves to trees. The feature film

ions to protect the countryside

in her home country.

She said: "I was amazed at the dedication of people chained to trees and in the path of bulldozers. Their tac-tics seemed spectacular. It seemed far removed from nice quiet life and something I was unlikely ever to become involved in

"But I heard of the plans to out a road through an ancient ourial chamber in Lewis and I had to get involved. Although we failed to stop the building of the road, that first step of

action changed my life."
The Forestry Commission said the oaks were to be felled under a new management plan to preserve the long-term future of Pressmennan Wood, which had no young trees to replace the mature ones when

Bishop to | reveal new plans for bombed church

A NEW proposal for the bomb-damaged medieval church of St Ethelberga, Bishopsgate, in the City of London, could end four years of wrangling in the Church. Plans for a modern glass-

fronted design that left exposed the parts of the church damaged by an 1RA bomb were rejected by City planners last year. The Rt Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, will announce the latest proposal tomorrow.

It is understood that the revised plans envisage St Ethelburga being reopened as a centre for peace, reconciliation and mediation. It is unclear what plans the bishop has for the fabric of the building, about a third of which was destroyed

Traditionalists had pressed for the Grade One listed building to be restored, with its medieval street frontage, roof and 18th-century bell nurrer. The decision to look again at the future of the building came after planners rejected the design by the architects Blee Ettwein Bridges to redevelop the site after some Church leaders argued that there were too many churches in the City.

Planners deemed the £3 million scheme - which would have encased the ruins in glass and steel and incorporated a memorial garden, gallery and office building — as

"inappropriate".

Objections were raised by the Ancient Monuments Society, the Royal Fine Art Commission, the Conservation Area Advisory Committee, the London Society, the Retail Traders Association, the City Heritage Society and the Friends of St Ethelburga. The friends had lobbied for

a plan by the architects Rothermel Thomas. It proposed rebuilding the church, including the popular walled garden, to provide "a valuable ecclesiastical and meeting space" in the City.

Three exam boards to merge

are to combine after a government demand for mergers to protect A-level and GCSE standards. Further cuts in the range of syllabuses available to schools are expected to follow the merger of the Associated Examining Board Northern Examinations and Assessments Board and City & Guilds Boards have already been asked to reduce to two each the number of syllabuses per subject by next year.

Buzzards return

Buzzards have returned to the Yorkshire Dales after an absence of 150 years. Bird watchers have recorded at least 15 pairs, raising hopes that the rare species willcolonise the east of the country once more.

Hand severed

Surgeons reattached a man's hand after it was severed by an attacker with a samurai sword. It was too early to say if the victim. 25, from Wigan, would lose that hand. A man aged 22 was charged with grievous bodily harm.

Places pledge

Independent schools were reassured that new assisted places will be honoured if Labour wins the general election, even though the Department for Education has stopped confirming them during the election period.

Burger relish

A free burger for pupils who rarely play truant has been negotiated with McDonald's by Rhodri Lewis, a teacher at Cwm Rhymni school, Bar-goed, Caerphilly. Other incentives are geometry sets, book tokens and Easter eggs.

Tenor's farewell

Luciano Pavarotti is to make a farewell gesture to the Royal ing with a recital accompa-nied by piano on May II. Tickets are likely to cost up to £125. The building is to close for a two-year redevelopment.

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. hospital treatment (AP)

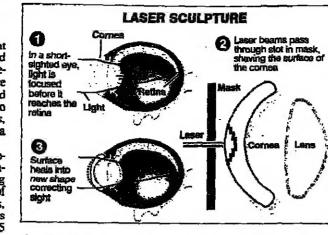
may put standards at risk

HEALTH CORRESPONDENT **CUT-PRICE** laser treatment to correct short sight may lead to a fall in standards, optomemists have warned. The price of the treatment has dropped from about £1,500 per eye to less than £300 in two years, and up to 15,000 patients a

year now have the surgery. The British College of Optometrists says that the technique, which involves shaving a tiny layer from the surface of the cornea to correct its focus, is still experimental, and this should be explained by the 25

laser clinics to their patients. Keith Edwards, professional adviser to the college, said: The real concern is over the quality of the procedure and how it is conducted. In general the results are pretty good, pretty predictable and pretty stable. But that is the average and there are always extreme

responses. Problems included scarring and distortion of vision, but they were rare, he said. Most patients would experience an might not be sufficient to allow



Cheaper laser eye surgery

cles, and the treatment could not halt the normal decline in

vision with age. Mr Edwards said: "The problem is that, once it is ione, it cannot be undone. Most other methods of correcting sight are reversible. Even with contact lenses you can

always take them out." Clearsight, a London clinic, was charging £1,400 per eye in 1994, including aftercare, but dropped its price to £995 more than a year ago and has recently cut it again to £295. including one follow-up visit.

charged at £25 each. Vivian Highman, consultant ophthalmologist at the clinic, said: "Like any commodity, laser treatment was more expensive when it first came out. Now we know more accurately what what can be done." Mr Highman said all care was provided by consultants and, although the clinic's laser was an older model, it had been upgraded four times. "It is virtually the same as the

modern ones," he said. Russell Ambrose, owner of the Optimax chain of five laser

200 patients a week and charges £395 per eye, including aftercare, said economies of scale made the lower price possible. "It's a business. We are a specialist provider."

He said consultants providthe treatment but the followup checks were by opticians. "If there are any complications the doctor will see the patient again. The opticians are under the control and supervision of the doctor and legal responsibility for the patients remains with the doctor."

Charles Magee, Professor of Ophthalmology at Dundee University and chairman of the British Excimer Laser Society, said: "If you have low prices you may have to rush patients through to meet fi-nancial goals." He said the high price of lasers, at £400,000 each, meant charges had to be high in the early years but could be reduced once the machine had been paid for. The older machines were adequate for simple, lowlevel shortsight but might not be for complex problems.



五世外の15万日

Etienne Bacrot moves closer to becoming the youngest grandmaster at the tournament in Enghien-les-Bains

A FRENCH boy aged 14 could soon be a millionaire after becoming the world's youngest chess grandmaster at the weekend (Raymond Keene writes). Etienne Bacrot, who achieved his result in the international tournament at Enghien-les-Bains in France, is likely to be

courted by computer manu-

facturers seeking his endorse-

Chess boy becomes grandmaster at 14

ment of their products. He is, however, one of the few experts who does not rely on computer analysis to support

his efforts. And, unlike many

nied by pushy parents. In the final round he needed only a draw to take the title. He won

years and two months beat the previous record, held by the Hungarian Peter Leko, who became a grandmaster at fourteen years, four months and 22 days. Previous holders in-

half a point. His age of

clude Bobby Fischer.

Clear alternative to glasses is not an easy choice

MEDICAL BRIEFING

hort sight is to a large extent inherited. Its incidence varies from one race to another; in the Far East more than 90 per cent of students in some universities need to wear spectacles

because of the condition. It is uncertain what link there is between short sight and a high 1Q. The Victorians thought that eyes could become strained by years spent poring over books, but a few decades ago the popular medical view was that shortsighted people gravitated towards the library because they found it hard to excel at games. Recently there has been support for a theory that

a high IQ and short sight may, in some cases, be part of a genetic package. Short sight may start in early childhood and is usually obvious by puberty. The eyesight may continue to deteriorate and usually becomes stabilised in the early 20s. Wearing glasses may affect self-esteem and be an inconvenience at work and at play. Contact lenses may be uncom-

fortable and may cause seri-Vision is impaired by too reat a distance between the front of the cornez and the retina, the membrane at the back of the eye which converts the images that it receives into nerve impulses for transmission to the brain. The cornea and lens in a short-sighted person focus the viewed image to a point well in front of the retina, so it is out of focus.

Ophthalmologists in Russia

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HEALTHCARE FOR PEOPLE OVER 50

were the first to popularise surgery to correct short sight. They altered the shape of the eyeball, making it rounder and therefore less long, by cutting radial incisions. This technique, known as radial keratotomy, was greeted with some suspicion in the West although a Russian hospital ship did brisk trade when it toured the Mediterranean

coast offering the operation. Some British surgeons use the technique and claim excellent results without serious complications, but its popularity has been reduced by concern about the long-term effects and the danger of rupture of the eyeball

In laser surgery, the eye's focusing mechanism is altered by shaving the cornea with a laser beam. The technique has proved reliable and is popular with patients. The success of laser therapy is dependent on choosing surgeon who is very selective

when deciding which patients should be offered the opera-

tion. The primary objective

must be to improve the sight

of a person who feels that their life is being spoilt by having to wear spectacles. When trouble has arisen usually it has been because judgment has been warped by the need to earn guineas, so that unsuitable cases are selected for treatment and others, are inade-

quately supervised. DR THOMAS

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Security crackdown in key towns as Hamas guerrillas threaten further wave of attacks

Israel pulls back from complete break in talks

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

AN EMERGENCY session of ional structure in place and Israel's security Cabinet decidsion of all talks with the Palestinians and instead demanded that the Palestinian Authority fulfil its obligations to fight terrorism as an essential step for continuing the political process".

The decision was taken in the face of opposition by some hawkish ministers, who had demanded a complete cessation of contacts in response to the claim that Yassir Arafat gave the "green light" for the start of a new campaign of suicide attacks.

Last Friday's explosion in a Tel Aviv café, in which three people were killed and 40 urt, was the first of its kind since Binyamin Netanyahu came to power promising Israelis "peace with security". Mr Netanyahu's commun-

ications director. David Bar-Illan, said that for now talks would continue only "on issues directly related to preventing terrorism ... until there is satisfaction on the security level".

Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, yesterday threatened more suicide attacks such as the one in Tel Aviv, and denied that Mr Arafat would be able to crack down on its activities as it

Shneimat: had young family

ready to strike against Jewish targets based outside the areas under his control.

Mr Netanyahu said after the meeting in Tel Aviv, a city surrounded by new Israeli roadblocks designed to try to thwart the Islamic bombers: "I ing their people, but the first item on the agenda is the fulfilment of the Palestinian obligation to fight terrorism.

Brigades, Hamas Movement Military Branch, Jerusalem-Occupied Palestine", went on in response to Mr Netanyahu's public pledge to continue with Har Homa despite Friday's bomb: "We do not need much effort to prove our truthfulness and the seriousness of our threats ... to teach the arrogant Netanyahu a lesson he will not forget for

days and years." Friday's suicide bomber came from a West Bank village still under Israeli mili-

6 We do not need much effort to prove the truthfulness of our threat to teach Netanyahu a lesson 9

with that, or else we cannot

The Palestinians shrugged off the Israeli threats, claiming that negotiations were already in deadlock. They blamed israel's decision last Tuesday to defy world opinion and send the bulldozers to begin building at Har Homa, a new settlement for 32,000 Jews on land annexed by Israel after its conquest from Jordan in the 1967 war.

The Harnas statement. treated as authentic and tary rule and where a strict curfew has been imposed. His family is attempting legal moves to prevent their house being destroyed by Israeli

On the ground in Israel and the territories occupied since 1967, the tinderbox atmosphere caused more violence and prompted the Israeli security forces to throw up an unprecedented ring of road-blocks around Tel Aviv and other cities in an attempt to thwart the Hamas bombers.

Palestinian mobs attacked soidiers guarding the 450 Jewish settlers for the third day in succession, hurling petrol bombs and shouting a new inflammatory slogan: "We do not want peace, we want

By last night the Palestinian authorities said that nearly 200 Palestinians had been injured since last Friday. 20 of them by live ammunition fired As the settlers celebrated the

Jewish festival of Purim in a bizarre carnival atmosphere enhanced by wigs and fancy dress. Palestinians living in the area still under Israeli control were under curfew and Palestinian police formed a human chain in an attempt to keep angry protesters from trying to storm the Jewish properties from the 80 per cent of the city now back in Arab control.

The spiral of bloodshed provoked by Har Homa has. ecording to travel agents. tourism. At least one tourist bus has been stoned in

Yesterday morning two Palestinians were shot and wounded by Israeli border guards at a roadblock between Bethlehem and Jerusalem after a dispute over identity



Hamas fighter broke mould of typical suicide bomber

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

AS THE three women victims of st week's Tel Aviv bomb were experts were studying details about the suicide attacker who blew imself up after selecting a table in the most crowded part of a cafe.

single, unemployed Palestinian men in their late teens or early twenties - Moussa Abu Deiyah Ghneimat was 28, married with four young children and had regularly worked in the kitchens at restaurants in Israel, including two in Risbon Lezion, home of Israel's

. "The fact that he had four kids of

his own and must have known that his bomb was going to blow up a mother and baby sitting in a pram more chilling," said one Jerusalem

The yellow duffel bag he was carrying contained explosives and nails. The bomb killed Anat Rosen-Winter, 32, a lawyer and mother of the six-month baby, Shani, whose picture, dressed in a Purim clown's costume, appeared on front pages throughout the world. Michal Avrami, 32, a doctor who was four months pregnant with her first child, also died in the blast. Security aources admitted that

the identity of the attacker had made the task of pinpointing poten-tial suicide bombers more difficult. It also opened up the prospect that a number may already be inside Israel waiting to act. despite the closure of the occupied West Bank

Ghneimat came from a Muslim family in the occupied village of Zurif, near Hebron. Neighbours described him as "a quiet guy" who work in Israel.

It emerged yesterday that he had been dismissed from one restaurant in Rishon Lezion a few weeks ago for flirting with a Jewish waitress, but returned to work in the kitchen and slept on the premises the night before he took a bus to Tel Aviv to carry out his mission

"Restaurant workers do not remember him talking politics. There

was no sign he had any political interest," said a lawyer for one of the two restaurant owners released on £5,000 bail after being arrested for employing the Palestinian with-

"He had been an employee and had worked at several places in Tel Aviv and other places in the centre of the country," said Yaacov Perry, former head of the Shin Bet internal security service. Mr Perry added: "From what I understand he aroused the attention of the manager of the Apropos café because he was wearing a long coat even though it was 26C (78F) and However, he would have detonated the bomb if approached, so there was no way to prevent the attack.

Rishon Lezion police arrested 23 illegal Palestinian workers over the weekend who were working in four restaurants, where they are favoured by employers because they accept low wages and are hard workers. The Tel Aviv daily, Haaretz, reported that all the owners - who were also arrested had allowed the Arabs to sleep on the premises "even after the Tel

Aviv attack"...

in a statement Hamas, the Islamto have at least 100 more volunteer Netanyahu has to realise that the menti policies will lead to an explosive situation and a crisis in

Islam told of duty to rescue Jerusalem

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN

YASSIR ARAFAT, the Palesunian leader, warned Israel that its hardline position on the construction of Jewish settlements in Arab east Jerusalem and the latest housing development in the area could ead to the total collapse of the Middle East peace process.

At the same time he made an emotional appeal to Muslim countries to rescue Jerusalem from "Zionist clutches", adding: "It is a religious duty of all Muslims to act to save Islam's holy place from the danger of Judaisation."

Mr Arafat, who was addressing an extraordinary members of the Organisation of Islamic Countries, said that Israel's latest move had taken the peace process down a dead end. The one-day meeting ended late yesterday after adopting a declaration supporting the claims of the Palestinians on Jerusalem. Among the Islamic leaders attending the conference were President Rafsanjani of Iran, and Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. Mr Arafat said that time

'Israeli plans to establish Jewish settlements in east Jerusalem are a flagrant violation of

In a scathing attack on America he said that it was unfortunate that Washington had been supporting Israel's illegal action.

Farouq Kaddumi, a close associate of Mr Arafat, declared that last week's suicide bombing was a normal reaction to the provocative policies of the Israeli Government. When a cat is driven to the wall, it is natural for her to attack," he said.

Mr Kaddumi, a former spokesman for Mr Arafat on foreign affairs, rejected the charge made by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, that the bombing took place on the instructions of Mr Arafat. That is a blatant lie," he told journalists

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Diplomatic dilemmas await Gore in Beijing

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

AL GORE, the American Vice-President, will need to step gingerly when he sets foot in Beijing today for four days of

A year in the planning, the visit had once been envisaged as a showcase for Mr Gore to show off his skills as a world statesman as just one of his qualifications to succeed Bill Clinton in 2000. But that was before America's China policy was sabotaged by the campaign financing row, with allegations that China funnelled money into last year's election through proxy donors to try to influence the Administration and members of

Although China has denied the charges as slanderous, Chinese officials are under investigation by the FBI, making Mr Gore's task more complicated. After some dithering among his aides, he has decided to broach the subject with Chinese leaders, but in a non-accusatory way, he said. Mr Gore's own legally dubious role adds to the delicacy of his position -- he made telephone solicitations from the White House and attended a fundraising event at a Bud-

He is also in a quandary over the chance to seal a lucrative deal for the sale of Boeing 777s to China. The contract would be a victory for the American aircraft manufacturer over Europe's Airbus Industrie and would protect hundreds of jobs at Boeing's

At one time the Administration banged the drum loudly for American business in China, but that commercial diplomacy is muted now. White House officials fear any gestures that could be interpreted

paign contributions. Only after much agonising did Mr Gore decide that he probably will attend the ceremony if the Boeing contract is signed while he is in Beijing.

Another dilemma for Mr Gore is China's eagerness to win admission to the World Trade Organisation. The Vice-President might have been eager to help, but he has been trumped by Richard Gephardt, leader of the House Democrats and Mr Gore's rival for the party's presiden-tial nomination in 2000.

Mr Gephardt, denouncing the Administration's progress in challenging China over human rights abuses, has introduced legislation that would require congressional approval for Chinese admission to the WTO. The majority Republicans may gleefully take him up on it.

Mr Gore is the highestranking American official to visit China since President Bush in 1989, a few months before the Tiananmen Square crackdown. His discussions will cover a broad range of

issues, including Hong Kong. He will also deal with preparations for the promised exchange of state visits. President Jiang Zemin is expected to travel to America this year and Mr Clinton tentatively plans to go to China next year. Both these trips could be clouded unless the campaign gifts controversy has been

tidied up by then. ☐ Tokyo: Mr Gore yesterday ruled out any cuts in US forces in Japan, saying it was the "worst time" for such reductions. Before flying to China, Mr Gore had talks last night with Yukihiko Ikeda, Japan's Foreign Minister. Mr İkeda also ruled out cuts at



Bush: first jump was not flawless

Bush to repeat aircraft bale-out

THIS time, George Bush will jump by choice. The former American President, who paled out of his crippled navy bomber 52 years ago, will parachute for a second time

At 72, he is due to jump out of an aircraft over Arizona at 12,500ft. "The reasons behind this are strictly personal," Jim McGrath, Mr Bush's assistant, said. "It has to do with World War Two. When it happens, we'll explain it."

These cryptic remarks have iven rise to speculation that Mr Bush may be trying to exorcise demons from his earlier jump. Two crew members died in the episode and the issue flared up as a dispute during Mr Bush's presi-

dential campaign in 1988. In 1944, Mr Bush, then a 20year-old pilot, came under anti-aircraft fire during a raid over the Japanese-held island of Chichijima in the Pacific in a 1987 account, which differed from his earlier versions, Mr Bush said the two crew had been killed and the plane was engulfed in flames. But the war hero carried on to the target and dropped his

bomb before baling out. His story was questioned by a gunner in the plane just in front of Mr Bush's who said his plane was never on fire and it was possible Mr Bush "could have saved" his two crewmen "if they were alive" if he had attempted a

water landing. Mr Bush has admitted his ump under fire was not flawless. He pulled his rip cord too quickly and was gashed on his forehead when he hit the tail of his plane.



Dalai Lama hopes to make deal with Chinese on Tibet

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN TAIPEI

THE Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, said yesterday at the start of a visit to Taiwan that he was optimistic of reaching an agreement with Beijing about

ه يكذا من الإعراب

autonomy for his country. He said he had informed the Chinese about his Taiwan trip and the response had been less harsh than he

expected.
The Dalai Lama was showered with praise on arrival, but Beijing warned the Taiwanese Government that the exiled leader is "a criminal solittist".

Thousands of monks, puns, Tibetan refugees and ordinary Buddhists mobbed him when he visited the Fuguangshan temple, where amid the beating of drums and bells he was escorted by one of his hosts in Taiwan, Master Xing Yuan, the temple's founder. Once inside, speaking in Ti-betan and occasionally Chinese, the Dalai Larna led prayers for peace.

Although he described the purpose of his six-day visit to Taiwan, his first, as promot-

religious harmony", the visit has been denounced in Beiling by the official People's Daily as the "Taiwan authorities and the Dalai Lama clique colluding and using each other, consorting with evildoers, going further down the road of splitting China".

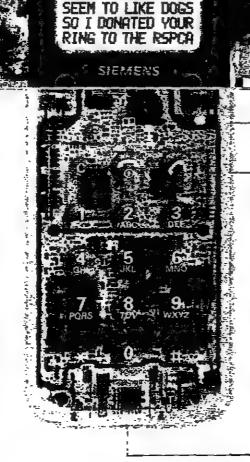
The Dalai Lama is looking forward to meeting President Lee Teng-hui. The meeting will probably be in a guest house rather than in Mr Lee's office, to reduce the impres-

sion of a state welcome. On Taiwan, Tibet is officially claimed as a part of China of which Taipei insists it is the legitimate government. The official position is represented by the Government's Mongo-lian and Tibetan Affairs Office, and there are Tibetan representatives in Taiwan's parliament.

The Council is sometime accused of funding rival groups of Tibetans who do not respect the Dalai Lama. It denies this and says much of its money is spent on helping occupational training schemes for Tibetan refugees

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Tall Ships prepare

FROM CATHERINE FIELD IN HONG RONG

for battle

in Pacific

IMAGES of clipper races, nostalgia of Empire and romance of sail combined in Hong Kong's Victoria Har-bour this weekend with the arrival of 33 gracious vessels which will take part in the first Tall Ships race in the northern Pacific.

The magnificent old craft will set sail for Osaka on Good Friday after a two-day regatta in the Fragrant Harbour. Competitors from as far afield as Poland, Mexico and Colombia are taking part in the 1.450-mile voyage. The biggest ship taking part is the Dar Miodziezy from Poland, which is 354 ft long, and the 294 ft Cuauhtemoc from

Mexico. When the ships leave it will be the most phenomenal sight. They will head off to the east. so there will be the mainland of Kowloon on one side and the Peak on Hong Kong island on the other. With the ships fully rigged, it will be terrific." said Ian Dale, director of Hong Kong's Marine

Department.
The journey comprises two racing stages from Hong Kong to Okinawa and Kagoshima to Osaka, and a cruisein-company leg of 350 miles from Okinawa to Kagoshima. The biggest ships will sail with

up to 200 crew members. On board Ji Fung (Spirit of Revolution), the ship representing Hong Kong, are a lawyer, doctor, administrator, plumber and an air-traffic controller who, according to the captain, Greg Tonnison, know basically nothing about sailing. We are all in the same boat. Of course, we don't want it to sink," said Sung Woei-min, 25, a graphic

Sailing may be the oldest form of locomotion, but the sextant will play only a decorative role in this trip. The captains are relying on the latest gadgetry - global positioning system navigation and

The sight of the ships harks back to the 1860s when there was a clipper race from Canton, and later Fuzhou, China's principal tea port, to London each year. British tea merchants paid an extra E2 per tonne for tea for the first trader to arrive from China.

Lifelong campaign against Mobutu pays off for Kabila

From Sam Kiley, africa correspondent, in kinshasa

THE hatchet-faced, 6ft-tall Tutsi bodyguard stared down at his leader, Laurent Desire Kabila, a roly-poly revolution-ary with a smile as ready as a humourless Tutsi's frown.

When I first met the head of Zaire's rebellion at his base in Uvira in South Kivu last November, it was difficult to believe that the English-speaking Tutsi from Rwanda, and a graduate of Belgrade University, could have been a comrade-in-arms of the legendary Che Guevara.

Is Mr Kabila, who now controls a third of Zaire and

Zaire talks hope rises

ZAIRE'S Government inched closer to negotiations with eastern rebels yesterday after a haggard President Mobutu emerged from three days of seclusion in the capital to greet Thabo Mbeki, South Africa's Deputy President

(Sam Kiley writes) After kissing his visitor, Mr Mobutu, 66, croaked out a few lines of explanation for his second return in eight months from cancer treatment in Europe. "I have come back

a puppet of Rwanda, Uganda. and their allies in Washington? Is he just a front-man for Rwanda's operation against Hutu extremists in refugee camps inside east Zaire? Or is he using the Tutsis as stalking-horses for a genuine rebellion against dictatorship? Five months later the answer is "yes" to all three questions. And, so far, "no" to views that he is planning to use Zaire as a base for a pan-African Communist revolution.

Born in 1939 in Jadotville, now Likasi, in what was Katanga province, Mr Kabila has been fighting against Presi-

and the fortunes of Mobutu,

as some of you [the press]

interests of Zaire," he gasped from beneath his trademark

Mr Mbeki said he had

delivered a personal letter from President Mandela, and

gave a broad hint that Mr Mandela was pressing the

Zairean President to agree to

negotiations with the rebel

leopard-skin hat.

dent Mobutu most of his life. sustaining his war efforts by allegedly indulging in gold smuggling in the provinces of North and South Kivu. Although he is suspected of

the kidnapping of three American workers at Jane Goodall's chimpanzee sanctuary at Gombe in Tanzania, Mr Kabila is now the darling of the diplomatic crowd in Washington and European capitals. But not so in Paris, where he is seen as a marionette of American plans to eclipse French influence in the region.

His language is still pep-pered with 1960s revolutionary slogans about "emancipation of the masses", but he has abandoned the wider Marxist rhetoric of his youth for prodemocratic cliches and commitments to a "free market throughout Zaire". This ideological switch at the age of 58 may seem suspect, but it is worth noting that six months before President Zenawi swept to power after II years of civil war in Ethiopia, he declared his economic model was then President Hoxha's Albania.

Mr Kabila has been tutored in how to succeed as a revolutionary in post-Cold War Africa by President Museveni of



Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader, with UN envoy Mohamed Salmoun, is cheered by supporters in Kisangani

Uganda and Paul Kagame. Rwanda's Vice-President and Defence Minister. They both came to power through rebel forces and are much admired by American officials.

No one, least of all Uganda and Rwanda, expected the rebellion of Tutsi Banyamulenge in Zaire which they backed last November would climax in a national uprising against President Mobutu's dictatorship. "In the early stages, the Rwandan and

Ugandan aims were clear ... to send military officers to help the Banyamulenge defend themselves [against Hutu and Zairean extremists and at the same time rid east Zaire of Hutu extremists and Ugandan rebel movements. This was quickly achieved, but what followed surprised everyone," a Western envoy in Kinshasa said yesterday.

Mr Kabila is the ideal candidate to represent the Alliance of Democratic Forces for

Liberation of Congo-Zaire. In 1960, he had fought for Patrice Lumumba, then Prime Minister, against Katanga secessionists, and had taken part in uprisings in North and South Kivu. By the mid-1960s he fled to Kenya and Tanzania after the rebel "governments" he helped to set up were routed by Mr Mobum's army with the help of mercenaries and

Belgian paratroops.

Mr Kabila resurfaced in 1977 to take part in an uprising

against President Mobutu in Kisangani, but was once again ejected, this time by French and Moroccan troops.

Now, however, "no one thought that Kabila would sweep through Zaire so quickly", the ambassador said, "But he has become the one man who has exposed the myth of the state of Zaire: the man that said 'the emperor has no clothes. He is the man Zaireans now trust to put the country straight," he declared.

Five found dead in fire at cult home

St Casimir, Canada: The bodies of three women and two men were found by firemen in a Quebec home belonging to a member of the Swiss-based Order of the Solar Temple police said here cuit.

yesterday. A girl and two boys, discovered behind the house, were being treated by a doctor.

The possibility of a collective suicide was being investigated after the blaze. More than 70 members of the sect were killed in apparent group sui-cides in 1994 and 1995. (AFP)

Rival fans clash

Amsterdam: A man was killed and dozens injured in a battle between hundreds of rival soccer fans (Mark Fuller writes). Supporters of Ajax PC of Amsterdam and Feyenoord of Rotterdam anacked one another with baseball bass, knives and hammers in a field on the outskirts of Beverwijk. near Amsterdam. Police said the fight was pre-arranged.

Bomb suspect

Washington: Canada has arrested a Saudi man as a suspect in the lorry bomb attack on a barracks that killed 19 American soldiers near Dhahran in Saudi Arabia last June (lan Brodie writes). Hani Abdel Rahim Hussein al-Sayegh, 28, is wanted for questioning by the FBI in Washington.

Spicer charged

Sydney: Colonel Tim Spicer. leader of the mercenaries hired by Papua New Guinea, is due to face a minor firearms charge in Port Moresby today (Roger Maynard writes). Australia's largest company. BHP, closed its steel mill in the capital and evacuated about

Life on the line

Tokyo: A boy aged 18 months escaped with a minor cut to his head when he crouched on the tracks as a train passed over him in Nagasaki, with the driver desparately trying to brake. The boy had been visiting his grandparettis, who tive mear the tracks. (AP)

Northerners put faith in Berisha

FROM TOM WALKER IN TIRANA

TO THE north of Tirana lies rolling upland — a Third World mishmash of half-built villas, pit latrines and wrecked cars. This is "Chechen" country: the hardiest of Albanians. highlanders who carry their guns with pride and shoot skywards in support of President Berisha.

"To us he is a legend — he cut the rope of 50 years of communism from around our necks," said Elmaz Kurti, a retired army officer from the grim northern chromiummining town of Kukes. "We will take up arms for him, we will go to the middle of Tirana to defend him."

It was a wedding day, and the Kalashnikovs in the Tira-

na suburb of Bathorne were unusually active. Against the din of guntire and gypsy music, the people were quick to gather, settling in the harsh sun on a variety of armchairs and stools outside the house of Mr Kurti's brother, Mahmud. the local Kryeplak or leader. We don't have anything

against the South but they must do as the Government says and put down their guns. The state is the state, and if the President was really applying the law we would have war. He is being very tolerant," he explained to nods of approval from young and old.

A visit to Bathorne quickly dispels any notion of there being room to negotiate with

southern rebels over the President's resignation. There are 22,000 people in these sprawling settlements that cloak the northern outskirts of Tirana: people driven out of their homes near the Serbian border by dire poverty and a disastrous reservoir project inspired by the former Com-munist leader, Enver Hoxha. President Berisha's village of Tropoje is in their heartland,

and his is the only voice to be

Albania is a clannish country where politics in the North is a question of sticking with who you know. President Berisha is the man of these highland people, and those who question his rule are part

trusted.

of a Communist, American and media-inspired plut. "The big powers and USA have always tried to split Albania. said Mahmud Kurti. "If it happens, we will fight."

We are not frightened of

these southern bands. There is

no other way but to kill them all," Elmaz Kurti said. A young Shik secret police-man hobbled over, his right leg bandaged. Ahmet Doda had the misfortune to be on duty in the southern town of Vlore during the pyramid riots in January. When the Shik station was attacked by the mob, he was shot while leap-

ing from a second-floor win-

dow, and eventually airlifted

to safety by helicopter.

India tracks killer wolves

Rae Bareli, India: The end is near for the wolves of Rae Bareli after the animals ate five children and mutilated five others along the banks of the Lone river in northern Uttar Pradesh state (Christopher Thomas writes).

Riflemen are tracking the killer packs in 100 villages. One wolf was shot on Wednesday, but it limped off and escaped. It was the first stroke of luck in a battle of wits with the cunning wolfnacks, which are starving because traditional food sources have all but disappeared. Last year 22 children were killed and 25 injured. Wolves are protected, but the law permits killing them if they prey on people.

British explorer safe after ordeal in Arctic

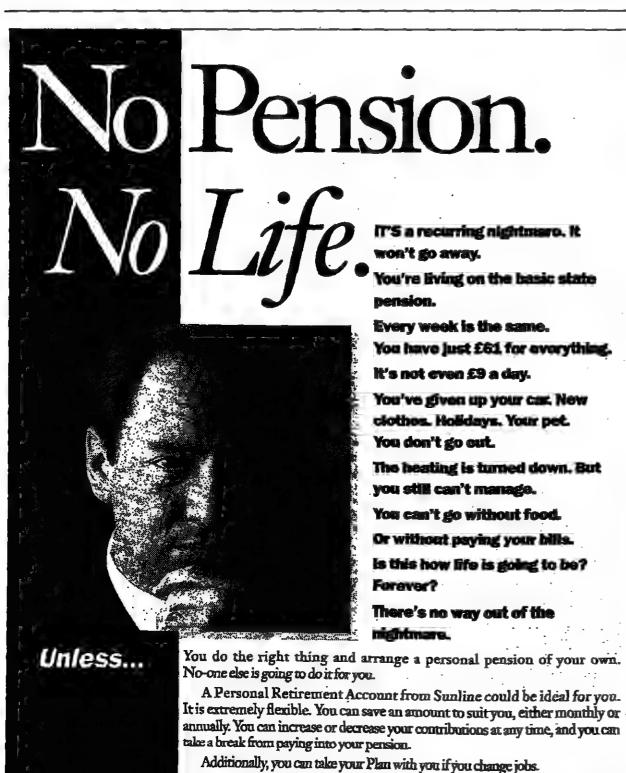
By Amanda Loose

A BRITISH polar explorer has been flown to safety after falling through ice into the Arctic Ocean.

Alan Bywater, 21, a computer studies student from London but now living in Vancouver, Canada, fell through thin ice on the tenth day of his unsupported solo attempt to walk to the North Pole. He arrived at Base Camp in Resolute Bay, in Canada's North-West Territories, late on Saturday night suffering from acuse frostbite in his

hands and feet. Mr Bywater said: "I thought on more than one occasion that I would definitely die out there. I've been incredibly lucky. My left leg went through the ice, and my body, from the waist downwards, suddenly plunged into the ocean.

Despite losing all his equip-ment, including his radio, Mr Bywater managed to clamber back on to the ice. He spent six hours looking for the tracks of fellow polar explorers David Hempleman-Adams, 40, and Rune Gjeldnes, 25, from Nor-way, who were also attempting an unsupported walk to the North Pole. "I knew it was my only chance of survival." he said, describing the relic when he saw their and



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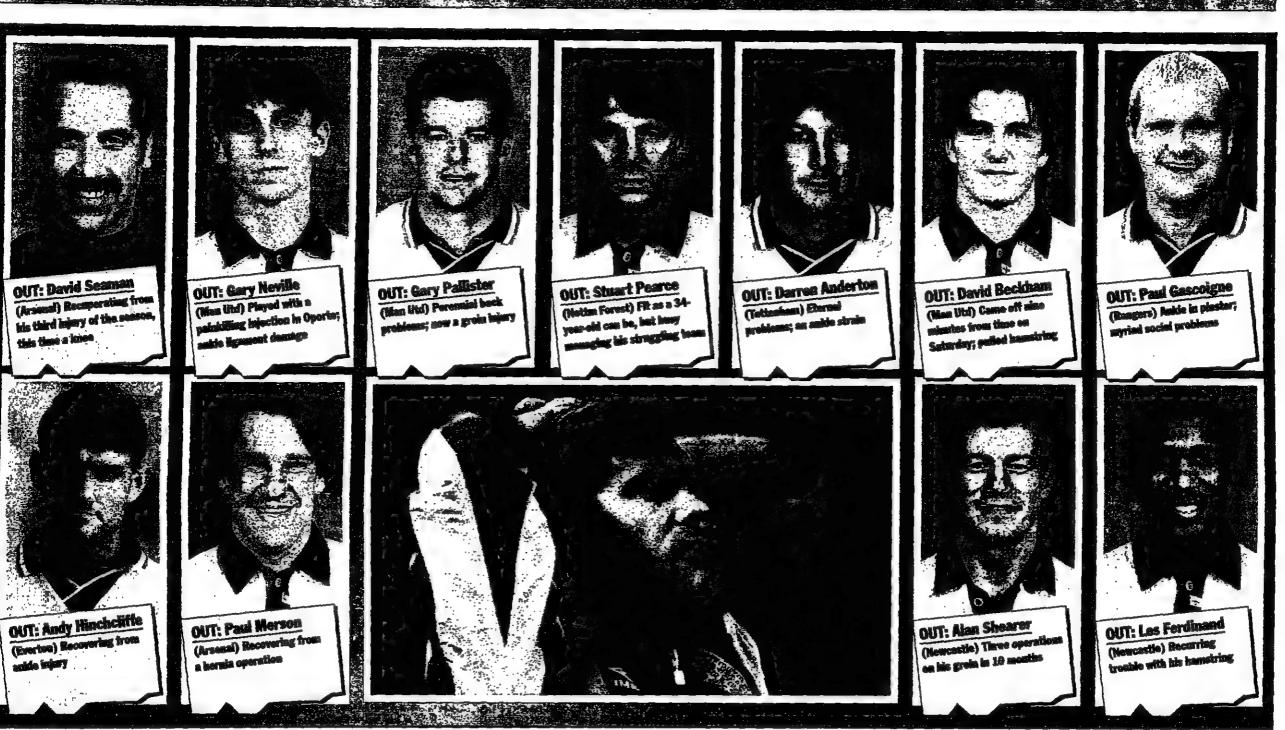
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IIMES SPORT

MONDAY MARCH 24 1997

S OFFICERS GIVE HODDLE A HEADACHE



Sick notes claim fantasy first eleven Ireland take their English

By ROB HUGHES POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

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via the line

OPERATION England versus Mexico at Wembley on Saturday is beginning to resemble the farce of Carry On Doctor. Aiready a complete and recognisable England XI has been withdrawn from the fixture and, yesterday, as the dance between Alex Ferguson and the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, took more twists and turns than any of the wounded players should be asked to attempt this week, it looked curiously close to compromising on the ethics of club versus

On Saturday Ferguson had decreed that three of his players, Gary Neville, Gary Pallister and David Beckham. would not subject themselves to the new England rule that. in case players are malingering or being held by their clubs for reasons other than genuine medical infirmity, they must travel down to Bisham Abbey and have their various ailments put under Trafford was to have replaced

The state of the s

the rule of Dr John Crane. They will not be going down to join England," insisted Ferguson. "They will remain

under our care.' Barely 24 hours later, Ferguson relented in the case of Gary Neville, who had played under United's care with a painkiller injected into his ankle against FC Porto last Wednesday, but had not been fit to perform in the league game at Everton on Saturday.

The deal struck between Ferguson and Hoddle was that if, indeed, Neville proved to have no chance of representing his country, then he would be replaced by his younger brother, Philip, another United player.

A further twist was added when Hoddle invited another United player, David May, 26 and in the form of his life, to step into the shoes vacated by Pallister. Of all the ironies this week, it would be remarkable if May were to win his first cap for England, remembering that his distinction at Old

believed to have been the best defender never to have played

for his country. Hoddle will also be watching the match at Highbury between Arsenal and Liverpool tonight with some anxiety. Seven of his squad will be on show: David James. Dominic Matten, Jamie Redknapp, Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman for Liverpool and Tony Adams and Martin Keown for Arsenal, Hoddle can ill afford any more

withdrawals. In a further development, David Seaman could return for Arsenal after a six-match absence following a knee operation. His recovery came too late for inclusion in Hoddle's squad

At least David Batty and Robert Lee, who played in Newcastle United's 1-1 draw with Wimbledon at Selburst Park yesterday afternoon, and Paul Ince, who played for Inter Milan in their 2-1 victory over Parma, were expected to report fit for duty.

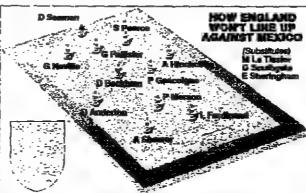
fixture list, the dire need of clubs to try to nurse players through the crush of the last months of the season, clash with England's desire to fill a blank Saturday with, in es-

sence, a training match. The day is open for such a their Premiership clubs for

game because players from 11 countries are absent from World Cup qualifying matches. Wales play Belgium this weekend, Northern Ireland are at home to Portugal, and

league players to Macedonia. The problem is global. At a medical symposium held by Uefa, football's European governing body, in Italy earlier this month, 70 sports doctors agreed that footballers are being submitted to almost intolerable loads. Uefa, with its own expanded Champions' League, contributes to that problem, as does Fifa, the world governing body, whose World Cup qualifying games

have burgeoned to more than



tions and who have, putting politics before the quality or the need for rest among performers, now contrived have 36 nations in the finals in

France in 1998. Can we wonder that, when the Football Association seeks to inflict high and mighty medical rules on the clubs, rather than offer consultation and co-operation, the likes of Manchester United are inclined to rebel. Ferguson can justifiably claim that his club is on the threshold of doing more to restore England's reputation abroad than the

national team. The same, in reverse, applies to Southampton. They stand timorously on the brink of relegation. Matthew le Tissier is the man whose goals have saved them in the past. So, when Graeme Souness, the manager seeking to keep the South Coast club afloat in the Premiership on gates of 15,000, clashes swords with Hoddle, there should be some understanding.

Le Tissier, dalm Southampton, has foot and groin injuries. It sounds like a new epidemic. But should le Tissier be pressed into service and then exacerbate his injuries, Southampton might lose him for the season and be relegated. We might well then see a High Court claim for a portion of the £15 million loss that Premiership status is estimat-

Pashion statement Colombian artistry Results and tables Tarnished hero .

29

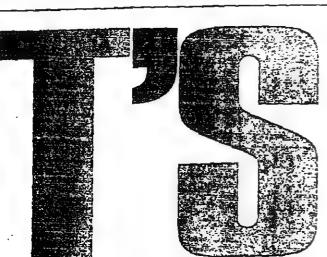
ed to be worth to a club each season. The chairman of the FA, Keith Wiseman, happens to be on the board of Southampton PC.

These are complex and emo-tive issues in the club versus country tug of war that has stretched some players to breaking point. Le Tissier himself commented at the weekend: "I won't be fully fit (for England) and you saw

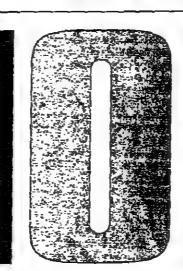
what happens if you play when you're not fit." He was referring to Alan Shearer, coming back too soon for Euro 96, and attempting to run through injury against Italy this year. He might have added the name of Jamie Redknapp who, twice injured on England duty, has lost the better part of a season for Liverpool, the club that pays

his wages.
To the team above, one might add Gareth Southgate, Teddy Sheringham and Tony Adams, who are all likely to attend Dr Crane's surgery. sicknotes in hand.

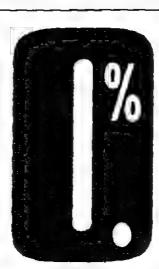
Hoddle's need for a workout, for an England team bearing some resemblance to an authentic unit for World Cup matches to come, runs contrary to the club campaigns. Hoddle is a man of faith, indeed he has indulged in faith healing to cure injuries of his own. But where money, ethics, and the growth of fixtures collide, not even a faith healer can solve the insoluble.



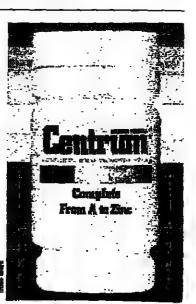




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Macree goes close to

springing a surprise

World Cup finds ITV at sixes and sevens

There's a lot of the amber nectar going down in those stands." Of course there was, this was the Rugby World Cup sevens in Hong Kong; but this was still a notable remark for at least two reasons.

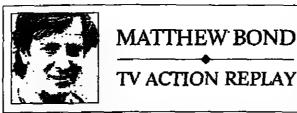
First, because it was possibly the first banal, rugby cliché unered by Nick Farr-Jones, a man whose eloquent contributions to the BBC's five nations' championship coverage - all drift defences and gain lines - are limited only by the minor handicap of having been born an Australian. Second, because he was making the comments on Eurosport, the pan-European satellite channel

Signing up Farr-Jones signailed the seriousness of the satellite channel's intent to provide a real alternative to the rather half-hearted cover-

age being provided by ITV, the terrestrial rights-holder. By the time ITV's live coverage got properly underway yester-day morning (on Friday it settled for late-night high-lights, while on Saturday, extended highlights went out - more understandably --

against Grandstand) Eurosport trio of Mike Wedderburn, Paul Dickenson and Farr-Jones were into their third morning of mixing up live and delayed coverage. And very enjoyable it was

too, although it was a shame that having signed up such a relaxed and knowledgeable team of commentators, little thought seemed to have gone into making the on-screen pictures look good. Eurosport's own graphics were messily superimposed on top of those provided by the host broadcaster and, more seri-



ously, play (even of the recorded and presumably haltable variety) was regularly lost to advertising breaks.

Given the marathon nature of the Eurosport commentary effort, it seems churlish to focus on the occasional slip. But one fell so painfully into the "there but for the grace of God...," category that it will stay in the memories of those who heard it forever.

Saturday morning, South Africa were playing Hong Kong, the cameras had lin-gered on South Africa's rain-

surge of goodwill flowed in his direction from the four winds

It seems hardly conceivable

that Olazábal could possibly become this competitive this

soon after returning to the game in the Dubai Desert

Classic last month. He was

twelfth there, and his perfor-

mance was enough for him to

be named player of the month.

If only the members of the

Fourth Estate who voted for

him then had known what

was to come. Surely, they need

do no more than play a reprise

of their debate when they

deliberate on the award for

his prospects in a minor key

this last month, even after

Olazábal has been playing

bow-shirted supporters and Farr-Jones had gone into full white liberal, isn't it good for South Africa, isn't it good for rugby mode. Ten seconds later he very confidently mis-identified one of the two black players then on the field for the Springbok seven. The silence that followed was short but

significant. Actually Nick ... began Wedderburn, who - as Harle-quin fans will know, but Eurosport viewers may not black. The silence that followed that gentle correction

was a little longer, far more painful and only really ended when Wedderburn himself (deliberately or accidentally, who knows?) made exactly the same mistake himself.

ITV's problems, meanwhile, were of a different sort. While the Eurosport team were commentating off monitors in Paris, ITV — very properly were on site with the better elements of their 15-a-side World Cup team. John Taylor teamed up with Steve Smith to their customary good effect, while Bob Simmons partnered Jonah Lomu - a tad less

The real problems, however (apart from England being broadcaster was on air) started when Lomu returned to the presentation studio and Jim Rosenthal.

Rosenthal

made such a professional job of the Australian Grand Prix two weeks ago. He was completely in awe of Lomu, unable to string together anything resembling a coherent ques-

But if you thought that exchange was painful, you really had to hear the interview with Mrs and Mrs Lomu conducted by a female "reporter" whose name I did not catch. Displaying a technique that made Louise Goodman, ITV's new pit-lane reporter. look like Jeremy Paxman, the Lomus were asked the sort of books they enjoyed reading, whether they planned to have any children in the future and - having been firmly rebuffed on that point - whether they

had any plans at all? Thank heavens the final was

REBECCA MACREE, from Essex, the England No 7, gave Michelle Martin, the world No 2 from Australia, a scare before Martin emerged victorious over five sets in the final of the Cup Olympics women's squash tournament in Antwerp, Macree, 25, lost the opening game 9-1, but then moved into the lead by taking the next two, 10-9, 9-5. Martin, in her last tournament before defending her British Open title, regained her composure, however, to secure victory by

taking the last two games, 9-2, 9-3.

Jonathon Power, 22, of Canada, recorded his fourth successive win on the Professional Squash Association world tour in Budapest yesterday when he defeated Peter Nicol, of Scotland, 15-11, 11-15, 15-3, 15-5 in the final of the Hungarian Open championship.

Barsby builds big lead

CRICKET: Trevor Barsby defied illness to score a century as Queensland tightened their grip on the Sheffield Shield final in Perth yesterday. Barsby, playing in his hundredth and last Shield match, had an upset stomach before taking the field, but spent more than five hours at the crease in scoring III. His innings allowed Queensland to reach 259 for six at the close of the third day for a lead of 414.

Earlier, Western Australia's first innings had lasted just another seven balls after they had resumed at 164 for nine. Michael Kasprowicz, the former Australia pace bowler, took the wicket of Bret Mulder for Western Australia to be all out for i65. Queensland must win the five-day match to capture the Shield title while Western Australia need only avoid defeat because of their higher end-of-season finish.

Leander retain title

ROWING: Leander, with Steve Redgrave, right, at No 7 and Matthew Pinsent at stroke, retained the Head of the River title on Saturday, but their winning margin was not as great as many people had expected. They completed the Mortlake to Putney course in 17min 28sec to win by 7sec from London University, with London I third, a further



Morgan secures victory

BOWLS: Russell Morgan, from the East Dorset club, in Christchurch, won the Warners all-England champion of champions singles title at Bembridge, on the Isle of Wight, yesterday, beating Paul Bennett, of Bodmin, 21-6 in a disappointingly one-sided final. Bennett was never in the hunt, as Morgan motored into a 15-1 lead after eight ends

Hayles still unbeaten

CYCLING: Rob Hayles remains unbeaten in the Ambrosia Premier Calender 16-race series thanks to another success, in the 100-kilometre event at the Eastway circuit, in London, on Saturday. A dangerous-looking group of ten escaped after 13 kilometres before Hayles closed the gap, built a ten-second lead of his own and then held off a spirited challenge from

Dark Blue triumph

GOLF: Oxford continued their impressive run of victories in the University match with a comfortable weekend victory over Cambridge at Royal St George's, Sandwich, Having won the foursomes by 32-12, Oxford took the singles by 75-25. James Fletcher and Omar Malik, the captain, were their sixth successive defeat.

Fast start for McRae

MOTOR RALLYING: Colin McRae, of Great Britain, right, and Carlos Sainz, of Spain, shared the lead in the Portuguese rally after the opening stage yesterday. Both drivers were timed at Imin Olsec over a prologue reduced to 1.7 kilometres after claims that the full course was dangerous. McRae, driving a Subaru, leads the world champion-



heavyweight title on Friday when he was disqualified for hitting Montell Griffin while he was kneeling at Atlantic twice when he got to a knee. Tony Perez, the referee, then

CRICKET: Jimmy Adams and Junior Murray have been dropped by West Indies for the third Test against India at the Kensington Oval, starting on Thursday. Courtney Browne will take over from Murray behind the stumps. Ian Bishop, who pulled out of the second Test because of injury, has also been included. Mervyn Dillon, who replaced

GOLF: SPANIARD WINS IN STYLE ON HOME SOIL TO COMPLETE LONG WALK BACK TO UPPER REACHES OF SPORT

Olazabal's feat underlines quality of return

AN ODYSSEY of misery and pain so severe that at one time he must have wondered if he would ever hit a golf ball in anger again ended in exulta-tion for José Maria Olazabal yesterday when he capped a fumultuous return to the game by winning on only his third

Olazábal, 31, took the Turespaña Masters and nearly £62.000 here at Maspalomus with a final, flawless round of 67 and a total of 272, 20 under par. He took the title by two strokes from Lee Westwood, with Paul Broadhurst and Eduardo Romero a further shot back. The Englishmen and the Argentinian played fine golf in the sunsoaked Canary Islands, but for the sake of the PGA European Tour, for the Royal and Ancient game as a whole but, most of all, for Olazabai himself, it was a day for

undiluted celebration. Nobody could have guessed when the Spaniard won the Volvo PGA Championship in May, 1994, that it would be 34 months before he would again walk into the winner's circle with that characteristic flatfooted gait of his. It had been his feet, indeed, that had kept him out of tournament golf for those long months and years of inactivity, doubt and agony. The rest of the golfing world can guess, but only he knows what this performance means

He gave the barest clue to the depth of his despair and the height of his joy in a press conference that was tinged with tears and emotion. "When the moment came when I knew I was going to win, many thoughts came to my mind," he said. "I thought of the heartbreaking times when I thought I would not be able to play again. I never

FINAL SCORES

272 J-M Otazaibel (Sp) 70, 67, 68, 67 274, L Westwood 72, 63, 68, 71 276; P Broadhurst 69, 72, 67, 69; E Romaro (Arg) 70, 70, 67, 69, 277; D Gillord 70, 63, 70, 69, J Cocarea (April 67, 71, 66, 74, 278, D Borrego (Sp) 70, 72, 68, 68, 279; I Gamdo (Sp) 70, 71, 71, 67, I Feltu (Sp) 73, 69, 70, 67; R Goosen (SAI 69, 71, 69, 70, 280; I Garbutt 73, 70, 69, 68, S Handerson 69, 71, 71, 69, P Minchel 88, 70, M Flortel (fi) 72, 69, 68, 71, 281; A Sancywell 71, 67, 72, 71; P Ouncu (Swet) 71, 44, 64, 70, 73, 283; D Chopps (Swet) 71,

thought I could do this so quickly. This was a very difficult moment and very

It was somehow symbolic that he enjoyed his moment of

triumph on Spanish soil and in front of his own people. The golfers of Spain and oceans beyond had been through his purgatory with him: a great

Woosnam confident after final flourish

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN ORIANDO, FLORIDA

IAN WOOSNAM regained his form too late to make an impact on the Bay Hill Invitational, but he goes into two hig tournaments with renewed heart after a closing round of 68 in Orlando yesterday.

Woosnam, whose hopes of a third win on the US Tour were destroyed by a third round of 76. collected five birdles with the help of a new driver as he finished with a total of 287, one under par. He plays next in this week's

Players Championship and will then spend a week at his holiday home in Barbados before heading for the Masters at Augusta, where he triumphed in 1991.

"I tried out a new driver with a different shaft and suddenly I was hitting the ball straight again," Woosnam said. "I had also been hooking my irons, but I seem to have solved that problem."

His iron play was certainly impressive at the start of the final round. He birdied the first three holes, twice tapping in from 18 Inches, before settling down to play par golf until he was unfortunate to drive into a deep divot on the tenth fairway.

From there he hacked into a bunker before missing from six feet to drop his only shot of the day. But he hit back by ulmost cagling the 517-yard 16th, where he got home in two with a three-iron. He then struck a superb four-iron to eight feet at the last to finish with a birdie.

"It might easily have been a 66," Woosnam said. "I had a few putts lip out, but this has made me feel much better." Colin Montgomerie went into the last round four shots behind a little-known American, Omar Uresti. who was It

under par and a stroke ahead of the field.

was 11 years old.

finishing fourth in the Portuguese Open last week. He was

March

not comfortable over the ball. he said repeatedly, he was still suffering with his feet, he was not happy off the tee, he needed to become more consistent before he could even begin to think of winning. He was, perhaps, right; he had, literally, to walk before he could think of breaking into a trot,

In spite of his protestations. it had been obvious since that performance in Dubai that he had timed his return almost to perfection. He did not want to come back before he could be a contender, his pride would not allow him to do that. How effective he was is now clear -it has taken him only 216 holes

of solf to achieve his sixteenth PGA European Tour victory. Olazábal started the day two strokes behind Westwood and José Coceres, but he led the field after playing only four holes, two of which he birdied while Westwood dropped a shot when he hit his second shot into a palm tree at the 4th. This, if ever there was one, was the defining moment of this last round. It was the first time Olazabal had led since his return and he was

never again to be headed. Olazibal picked up a further shot at the 6th with a 25foot putt. That put him two ahead of the field. Two more birdies coming home completed a faultless round of six

He may not be in perfect shape yet; he insists he is not. With the US Masters only three weeks off, he has to sharpen his game off the tee, and he recognises the fact. For the moment, this was good enough. It was victory: and victory, when the alternative only last summer might have been a wheelchair, was pre-



Olazabal drives off the 17th on his way to victory in the Turespaña Masters yesterday

Davies casts long shadow

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

KELLY ROBBINS and Barb Mucha, the two Americans who were leading the Standard Register Ping tourna-ment at Moon Valley by one shot after three rounds, knew that they would not be the centre of attention when the final round began yesterday. The champion of choice was Laura Davies and anyone else

would be a party-pooper. Rubbins, a United States Solheim Cup player who won the Diet Dr Pepper National Pro-Am this year, understood the partisanship. "It's kinda neat to see Laura play so well. year after year, here," she sald. "I won't be ignoring her - I'll be watching the leaderboards like I usually do. I like

to know what's going on." Davies, the world No I, was aiming to win the event for the fourth successive year to put her in the record books along-Davies had six birdies in a

side the legendary Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen. round of 70, three under par. on Saturday, for a total of 209, level with Karrie Webb, the Australian who won the United States money-list last year. They were one behind Robbins, who dropped two shots when she drove out of bounds at the 17th, and Mucha. "I've a chance, so I'm happy," Davies said. "All I wanted was to be in a position to challenge on Sunday. To win four in a row is something to go for and on the first tee on the first day

that's as nervous as I've been." DETAILS

United States unites: stated
LEADERS AFTER THIRDE ROLLINDS: 2015
B Mucha 65, 70, 73, K Robbers 67, 68, 73
205; K Webb (Aug.) 71, 68, 70; L Daves
(26) 70, 69, 70; 210; D Core-tones (Can)
65, 70, 74, 211; L Brower 69, 72, 70, M
Rectman 63, 70, 73, M Lunn 69, 68, 74, 212;
B Nerson 72, 73, 67; K Ischenter 69, 69, 74,
K Weers, 66, 69, 75, 213; J Greddes 72, 71,
68, C Hal 71, 74, 69; J Mortey 72, 71, 70; L
Hackney 70, 73, 79; H Kobayashi Lispan)
71, 69, 73, A Bens 69, 71, 73; C Rog-Currer
70, 69, 74, 214; M Hotaso (Llapan) 72, 70,
72, 215; C Sovenstam (Swe) 76, 71, 68
218; K Marchall (GB) 74, 71, 73

The course measures 6,435 yards, the longest on the LPGA (Ladies' Professional Golf Association) circuit, but it is playing much shorter with temperatures in the mid-nineties, 20 degrees above normal. As Davies put it: "Yardage is out the window."

The world's longest-hitting

woman used her driver only five times in the third round at the first and third and at three of the four par-fives, the fourth, eighth and tenth. "I think the course is now starting to favour the straight hitters more than the long

hitters." she said.

Laidback though she is, there is no doubting Davies's determination here. When she missed the cut in Tucson a week ago, she did not visit Las Vegas for a weekend at the tables, but went to Phoenix to practice. Admittedly, a race track and a dog track were available to keep the inveterate punter occupied, but four in a row is not the only game in town: Davies needs one more win to reach 50

worldwide. Davies casts a long shadow but it will not have escaped her notice - and should not escape anyone else's - that her compatriot Lisa Hackney and Joanne Morley were handily placed on 213, six under par, and Sweden's Charlotta Sorenstam, another LPGA rookie, was on 215, with Alison Nicholas, after a 68, five under par, on Saturday.

ship after three rounds. Champion disqualified

BOXING: Roy Jones lost his World Boxing Council light-City, New Jersey. It was Jones's first loss in 34 bouts. Jones had put Griffin down in the ninth round and then hit him counted Griffin out, but he was later awarded the bout.

Browne takes over

Bishop, keeps his place in the 13-man squad.

TENNIS: EARLY DEFEAT FOR BRITAIN'S NO 1 SUGGESTS PROLONGED REST MAY BE NEEDED TO CURE PERSISTENT INJURY

Davis Cup prospects hang on Henman's elbow

FROM ALLY RAMSAY IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

TIM HENMAN is leaving Florida rather earlier than expected, taking with him many of Great Britain's hopes of progressing in the Davis Cup. On Saturday he was beaten in the second round of the Lipton championships by Julian Alonso, another of Spain's armada of promis-

ing newcomers, 7-6, 6-2, 6-3. It was Henman's first match since the end of February and proved that the elbow injury that he has been protecting for the past formight is still nowhere near cured.

Quite what is wrong with Henman's elbow remains unclear. Bill Norris, the ATP Tour trainer. described it as "a slight degenerative problem. The elbow is put together in think and act in tandem, but this time

a strange way", but Norris seems confident that "we'll get him right". Henman, on the other hand. describes the cause of the problem as "a loose body" within the joint that has flared up sporadically since he

"Last time it happened, I rested for three weeks and then I was able to start playing again," Henman said. "If that's the case, it doesn't bode well for the Davis Cup. But I think, if I were playing any other tournament next week, then I wouldn't play. But I regard the Davis Cup differently, I'm

desperately keen to play."

The immediate plan is to return to

England and see what happens. But

David Felgate, Henman's coach,

seems less than impressed with the

idea. Normally Henman and Felgate

he wants Henman to listen to his advice. "In my mind it would be an easy decision," he said.

body with Byron Black's experience and game going to make of it all?"

Alonso, still only 19, with a big first

"I don't think he should play until Tokyo, which would give him 312 weeks' rest. He has to think of his career and not play for his country. Going out there half-cock and losing

is bad for his morale and doesn't do

any good for his ranking, and it lets

other people think they can beat him. Playing the way he was forced to play against Alonso won't do anyone any good in the Davis Cup. His career must come first. This kid, with no experience, has worked out that Tim has a problem. What is some-

and game going to make of it all?"

Alonso, still only 19, with a big first

service, a considerable amount of muscle and very few nerves, made Henman look very average on Saturday. He had never won a match on the tour at this level until this week and now he finds himself in the third round. Not bad for a man who only took up tennis as a child in order to

lose some weight. Rather more worringly for Henman, he was unable to serve flat out and, once he realised he could not impose his game on Alonso, he seemed to lose the will to fight. "It probably wasn't the smartest thing to do, to play today," he said.

walking wounded is growing at an

With Greg Rusedski still plagued by a wrist injury, David Lloyd's list of

alarming rate. The fanfares and hurrahs surrounding the much publicised resurgence of British tennis could well be silenced come next week, when the Lawn Tennis Association's new model army is shown to be two strong and neither of them are available to play.

Still, such problems are not restricted to British shores. Boris

Becker withdrew from the tournament on Saturday without hitting a ball having decided that his wrist still was not strong enough to risk in a match. As for Andre Agassi, he would be happy if his career could reach the dizzy height of the doldrums having lost miserably to Scott Draper, from Australia, 7-6, 6-1. The former world No I has now failed to win a set, much less a match, in his past four tournaments.

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12 00 Kg

Er, wrong. Actually, Great

That is what those close to

Here, though, is the rub;

but she is, by her own admission, half French. Many of her mannerisms are English, but she speaks in French to her elder brother, James, who also skies for Britain and expects to continue doing so. Sophie is less sure. She has been nurtured by the French ski system since the age of nine and why she is as good as she is. She also knows that it can better help her to push for the

done," she said in Tignes, where she finished overall joint-second in the British Land British championships. "but I cannot get a sponsor and don't know how to go about it. I don't even feel there is anyone who can help me. I have been with them two years and have not found a sponsor in that time, so why

Britain, but it would be much easier with the French. They have the coaches, the back-up staff and the training camps. Everything is the best and it is all paid for. With the French, I believe I can make it to the top. My French coach, Michel Boyer, has been really good about it. He just tells me to do

almost certainly mean Orproper financial support, Britain's brightest talent for years

danger of missing out on Ormond potential

FROM SIMON WILDE

NOW that Tim Henman has made British tennis respectable, there are precious few sports left to us for selfmockery. So, thank goodness for skiing, we all say. There is a sport that we will never be good at; it is not in our genes to be. Leave it to the French and the Austrians.

Britain does possess a brilliant teenage skier who could well reach the top. Her name is Sophie Ormond, she is 17 years old and ranked in the world's top ten for her age-group. By all accounts, she is extremely promising. She may be living proof that, biologically, there is still no reason why a Briton cannot be among the best skiers in the world.

because, as the striving to

highest summits.

Doing that, though, will

SKIING

Britain in

IN TIGNES, FRANCE

said for years. Their argument is that skiing is a sport in which competitors are commonly separated by mere fractions of seconds: the difference, say, between one kind of ski and another, or between back-up staff who have enough time to study every twist and turn of a race course and those who do not. With better funding, they say, British skiers can make those fractions disappear.

remove those fractions goes on. Ormond may be unwilling to remain British much long er. Ormond, you see, has a choice; although her parents are British, they have long

will slip through the net.

the British Alpine team have

resides near Annery. Her genes may be British.

the best for myself."

lived on the Continent. She

I have skied with Britain for the juniors and at the world championships and am grateful for what they have

should it happen now?
I would like to go with

mond taking up French citi-zenship. For the want of

Results, page 34 SNOOKER

a month at altitude and no

racing for six weeks had

brought her to the Parco del

Valentino in formidable condi-

Behind Ethiopia and Ke-

nya, Ireland, led by Catherina

McKiernan in seventh place,

took the team bronze medal.

Britain were one runner short

of a medal-winning squad.

Lucy Elliott was eighteenth

and Hayley Haining 22nd,

but, without another top 50

runner, they had to settle for

Paul Tergat won his third

successive senior men's title,

leading Kenya to their twelfth

consecutive team victory. Jon

Brown, the leading Briton, was fourteenth and Glynn

Tromans, on his British debut

ten months after a second

heart operation. 159th. Kenya

swept the junior board, win-

ning the men's and women's

individual and team gold

Morgan holds up Hendry

fourth.

has the advantages mentioned, but

cus as her theme, and skated the big top with all she possessed. But the American skated the freak show from the fairground next door and stole the judge's hearts. The name of the geek is Tara

Lipinski, 14 going on ten. On Saturday they crowned a prepubescent little girl as women's world champion figure skater. She stood on the podium, grinning goofily— I'm still in shark, she kept saying unendearingly— all 4ft 8in and 5½

Odd sight: the medal podium, naturally, was in three stages, but all three heads were more or less on a level. It was, perhaps, the crowning absurdity of a peculiar but enthralling atternoon.

Sport is a bitch goddess, we all know that. But if you seek the real viciousness of caprice, then ice skating is the queen of them all. This is a fact of life in all the subjectively judged sports, from dressage to trampolining, but skating has a killer factor that no other sport can

This is "artistic impression". Well, I don't know much about art, but I know a damin sight more than any skating judge, at least on Saturday's evidence. Michelle Kwan, the American who finished second, might

well be thinking the same thing. Kwan was the defending champion. She is now 16, and has trained on from last year. Precocious ralent has been transmuted into grace. No longer a little girl, she is at least half a woman and certainly all teenager. She has learnt a good deal about art and a lot about worry. In a year, she has learnt self-doubt, as any angst-

But not Lipinski. She has yet to reach such a stage in her life. She skated like a whitling automaton. She is stunningly competent; there is not an ounce of dispute in that matter. But then, she has a huge advantage: the alliance of her precoclous talent and her freakish

it is this combination that allows her to spin with such extraordinary rapidity. For that reason, there is no call for her to jump terribly high. In fact, when she performs a triple, you would still find it difficult to slide the Journal de Genéve beneath her

Her tininess also makes her landings much safer. The heavier you are, the greater your momenturn and the further you skid. Skating is always a sport that favours the compactly built, but this

With most things in sport, there is

BOXING

Brodie can

aim high

after defeat

of Swain

By SRIKUMAR SEN

BOXING CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL BRODIE proved

himself one of the most exciting prospects in Great Britain

on Saturday. Brodie, 22, from

Manchester, was only just

beginning to come out of the

six-round stage when he found

himself facing Neil Swain, of

Wales, the Commonwealth

champion and one of the

toughest men in the British

super bantamweight division.

trouble and is a gifted boxer, it

was thought that the decision

to go for the vacant British title

might have been made too

early. Even Jack Trickett, his

manager, wanted to have a few more bouts before taking

Sure enough, Brodie found himself in a brutal encounter

that must be a contender for

bout of the year. It ended in the tenth with Brodie pulling out a right that knocked out Swain. He was out for a good two

minutes and ring officials

were beginning to get con-cerned when he suddenly re-

covered. Brodie, too, received

his share of lumps and

bumps, and twice almost got

Anyone without genuine po-

tential would not have been

able to withstand the violence

that Swain unleashed on the

youngster from the first bell

and the unrelenting pace at

which the bout was contested.

Brodie is definitely one to

watch. With judicious match-

making and clever promotion,

Trickett said: "That was a

very hard fight that wants

want to take it until he had

had a couple of eight or ten-

some getting over. I did not

he could go all the way.

into serious trouble.

on Swain.

at the Wythenshawe Forum. Although Brodie has a punch to get himself out of

a trade-off. Every advantage is also

a disadvantage. The super-tall goal-

THE Frenchwoman chose the cirkeeper has a huge advantage on crosses, but is vulnerable to the short-range grubber. The massive ball-winning rugby forward has no speed. And so on.

FROM SIMON BARNES IN LAUSANNE

in skating, the very short skater can never look truly elegant. With Lipinski, the trade-off of her virtuosity is in grace; in artistry, if you like. And yet she was not penalised for

this. The judges funked it. Infant prodigies are an uncomfortable phenomenon. You find them in chess, mathematics and music: something to do with pattern recognition. Perhaps these freaks are



'Doubtless she has a soul, equally certainly she has not located it yet'

may be able to play The Goldberg Variations, but that does not make

And that is Lipinski for you; she is just playing the notes. Terribly well. Dazzlingly well. But, for the moment, she is just the skating equivaient of a human pianoia. Doubtiess

earnest seeker in the world than the teenager in search of her soul. I mean, like, what is the meaning of life? No thoughts on that matter, or on any other, from Lipinski. She was still in shark.

him Glenn Gould.

she has a soul, equally certainly she has not located it yet. Or even started looking. That is what is so endearing

Kwan was in fourth place going into the free programme and knew that she would have to skate as she has never skated before to win. She had undergone a nightmare of

tumbles in the United States nat-

ional championships, and began

and she let it slip in that initial fall. The jumps are what puts skating about Kwan. There is no more into the arena of sporting chance, and you either land them or you don't. Her recovery, though doomed

to ultimate failure, was a noble thing. "It's a wonderful feeling," she said, "learning to fly again." The Winter Olympics are just 11 months away, and Lipinski, aka "the Robotic Shrimp", is now in pole position. No doubt she will be a millionairess by the time the torch is

that her sport did the same thing.

lit in Japan. She might even have started to look for her soul. It is time Lipinski in action during her free programme, which lacked the grace shown by Kwan, her rival

"You always think, after the

race, that you might have been

able to go a bit quicker, but I

was going as hard as I could."

Radcliffe said. The standard is so high. I have to be

pleased." It had been a good

omen, after all, she concluded,

that a pigeon had messed on

Again, though, it is a story of a British arrow just outside

the bullseve. Since Jonathan

Edwards won his triple iump

gold medal in Gothenburg in

1995, British athletes have

taken 12 silver medals at

global championships, but no

gold. Perhaps Radcliffe can find the centre at 5,000 metres

in Athens this summer. This

gives me something to build

Her most notable achieve-

ment as a senior until vester-

day was breaking Zola Budd's

5,000 metres British record

and she is hopeful of improv-

ing it further. Eventually, she

will move up to 10,000 metres,

perhaps experimenting with

one this year and racing over

the distance at the 1998 Com-

monwealth Games, but she

sees herself mainly as a 5,000 metres runner for a few years.

This was the first time since

joining the senior ranks that

she had enjoyed preparation

unrestricted by illness or inju-

ry. Eight weeks' good training.

on." she said.

ATHLETICS: BRITISH DISTANCE RUNNER PREVENTS AFRICAN CLEAN SWEEP IN WORLD CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS Radcliffe provides Europe with silver lining

Judges put technical competence before artistry in world championships

Lipinski leaves behind hollow impression

her short programme here with

another fall. Angst had undone her.

about, like, life, you know, and

death. She thought of Scott Hamil-

ton, the great American skater who

has just been diagnosed as suffering

from testicular cancer. "I realised

I'd been focused on the wrong

thing," Kwan said. "I mean, com-

pared to that, we're lucky just to be

here. And we're here to have fun."

dream of beauty, and it was four

minutes of pure loveliness, for,

lovely sport. And the judges re-sponded as judges should and awarded her their best marks. And

so Kwan won the free programme,

iust as she should have done. And it

The final results in skating all

come down to the comparative

placings of the panel of judges. The

last skater was Irina Slutskaya, of

Russia, who put up a magnificently

dramatic performance, ending up with a showy double Biellman spin,

skate blade clasped in her hand

inexplicably, the judges were unmoved, and Slutskaya finished

fourth. This added complication

was enough to keep Kwan in second

place overall, to philosophise on such matters as life and death, and

The anomaly of it all was the

extraordinarily high marks that

Lipinski received for artistic impres-

sion. It was as if the judges believed

that someone so technically gifted

must be an artist. And it is not true

at all. It is as if they thought the Vanus de Milo was much the same

thing as a Barbie doll. The judges

acceded to the wishes of the Ameri-

can corporate hunger for teeny

Thus they have brought discredit

upon their sport, and insulted its

participants. Why have marks for

artistic impression in the first place,

if you don't use them to discriminate

But Kwan knows that, for all this,

she had her destiny in her hands,

tween artist and freak?

was not enough.

above her head.

heat and kitchens.

heroines.

And so Kwan skated as if in a

Begone dull care. So she thought

FROM DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN TURIN

AMID the customary African dominance of the world cross country championships, Paula Radcliffe, from Bedford, struck a small blow for Europe here yesterday when she took the silver medal in the senior women's race. Briefly. it looked as though Radcliffe would win, but Derartu Tulu. from Ethiopia, stole past her in the finishing sprint to regain the title lost last season

when a shoe came off. In four races, Radcliffe was the only athlete from outside Africa to win an individual medal. As you might expect from a young woman who strives for perfection in everything she does - she is a former junior world champion and, as a student, achieved four A-grade A levels and a first class degree - her first reaction was one of regret. "I was a little bit disappointed

straightaway, because I thought I had it won." Radbecause 1

cliffe said. However, the more she thought about it, the better she felt. Bearing in mind that she had not finished higher than eighteenth in three previous attempts, that no Briton had come as close since Liz McColgan in 1987, and that this is the most competitive women's foot race of all, it was an outstanding effort. Like McColgan, when Annette Sargent, of France, was champion, Radcliffe was only two

seconds behind. Radcliffe, 23, was well-positioned throughout and, with a kilometre of the 6,700 metres to run, was one of five in contention. The others were Tulu and her countrywoman. Gete Wami, the defending champion. Sally Barsosio. from Kenya, and Julia Vaquero, from Spain. Wami was first to break, but Radcliffe responded and hit the front

400 metres out.

However, with less than 100 metres to run. Tulu picked up her speed and Radcliffe. though she did not slow, was unable to raise hers, "I knew I had Wami beaten, but I did not realise Tulu was still there." Radcliffe said. Tulu recorded 20min 53sec, Radcliffe 20min 55sec and Wami



Radcliffe strides towards her silver medal in Turin

EQUESTRIANISM: RECORD NUMBER OF ENTRIES RESTRICTS OVERSEAS RIDERS Top horses ruled out of Badminton

By JENNY MACARTHUR

SEVERAL of the world's top horses will miss the Badminton Horse Trials, the world's leading three-day event, in May, after an announcement yesterday that each overseas rider will be allowed to ride only one horse. British riders may ride two.

The ruling follows a record 151 entries for the event. Blyth Tait, of New Zealand, the Olympic champion, and Mark Todd, a dual Olympic gold medal-winner, are among leading riders who will have to choose which of their top horses to run.

Todd, who was competing at the Land-Rover Gatcombe Horse Trials yesterday, where he finished third on Kayem one of his three Badminton entries - condemned the decision. "If the event wants to be the premier in the world, it should employ a ranking system like any other top sporting event," he said.

"Wimbledon doesn't say that Boris Becker can't play hecause a British player ranked No 364 has to."

Tait, who will have to choose between Chesterfield. a team bronze medal-winner in Atlanta, and Aspyring, the runner-up at the Pratoni event in Italy last year, shared his view. "It will be disappointing for the general public at Badminton who expect to see the



best available talent," he said. "Instead, they will be seeing the best riders with one horse - along with Samantha clippety-clop from up the road." Both riders are also con-

cerned about the effect that the ruling will have on the world rider rankings, which allocates more points for a win at Badminton than other events. It will give the Britons who are allowed two horses an unfair advantage." Tail the leading rider last season. said. Hugh Thomas, the director of Badminton, admitted that

it was "very sad" that a number of qualified horses would he turned away, but said that, with a maximum of 80 starting places, it seemed the fairest decision. "For the future, we have obviously got to work out a different way of doing things," he said. Meanwhile. Rodney Pow-

ell, the winner of Badminton

in 1991, had little to complain

about at Gatcombe yesterday.

He won the advanced intermediate section after a superb performance on Flintstone, an eight-year-old. Powell. who decided to "go for it" on the cross country, collected just three time faults to finish on a score of 35. Mary King, on King William, and Todd, on Kayem.

both finished on 37, but King

was awarded second place

because she had more "good" marks in her dressage test. Andrea Morris, a team gold medal-winner in the 1987 British junior team, had a slender win in the British Equestrian Insurers Brokers (BEIB) open intermediate section on The Fun Dun, a nippy little 15.1 hands mare. Morris now leads the BEIB horse trials series which culminates at

RESULTS: Advanced intermed RESULTS: Advanced intermediate: 1. Fintsione (R Powell, GB) 35pts; 2, King William (M King, GB) 37; 3, Kayem (M Todd, NZ) 37 British Equestrian Insurers Brokers open intermediate: 1, The Fun Dun (A Morris, GB) 28; 2, Penyfields George (L Law GB) 29 3, King Solomon (M Ming, GB) 30

Longleat in June.

STEPHEN HENDRY surprisingly struggled to shake off Darren Morgan, the titleholder, in the opening session of the Benson and Hedges

Irish Masters final at Goffs

here yesterday as he estab-

lished a slender 4-3 advan-

Hendry, attempting to win his fifth event this season, and improve his already overwhelming record against Morgan to 14 victories from 15. meetings, threatened to dominate as he aggregated 265 points without reply in building a 3-0 lead.

Hendry, successful in ten consecutive finals since being edged 9-8 by Peter Ebdon in the climax to the 1995 Irish Masters, had runs of 116 - his 34th century break of the 1996-97 campaign — and 96 before Morgan dug in his heels.

Fortune smiled on Morgan in the fourth frame when Hendry, leading 30-0, went in-

FROM PHIL YATES IN CO KILDARE off after potting a red from distance. Morgan capitalised with an 82 clearance and then

with a century break. Hendry's hopes of lifting his 64th trophy were bolstered by contributions of 41 and 79, which paved the way for a 4-2 lead, but Morgan, whose greatest asset is a stubborn streak, remained in contention by comfortably prevailing in the closing frame of the

accounted for the fifth frame

afternoon. That left Hendry requiring five of the ten frames scheduled last night to collect the £72,000 first prize and provide additional evidence that, with the Embassy world championship at Sheffield fast anproaching, he is still the man to beat.

Hendry ensured his participation in the eightieth final of his 12-year professional career by defeating Ronnie O'Sullivan 6-2 in the semifinals on Saturday, while Morgan unexpectedly overcame Ebdon, the winner of the Thailand Open last week, by the same score.

That was a bit more like the real Stephen Hendry," Hendry, who constructed breaks of 71, 83, 81 and 91 in beating O'Sullivan, said. That's the best I've played since I beat Ronnie [O'Sullivan] in the Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge fi-

nal in January." Hendry, who has been seeded to meet O'Sullivan in the world championship quarterfinals, added: "Over the past couple of months, I haven't really met the standards I set myself, even though I have won a couple of tournaments. This was much more encouraging."

11 6

RESULTS: Quarter-finel: D Morgen (Wales) bt J Parrott (Eng) B-2 Semi-finelc: S Hondry (Scot) bt R O'Sulfivan (Eng) 6-2: Morgan bt P Eboton (Eng) 6-2: Final Hendry leads Morgen 4-3

to win a Lonsdale Belt out-

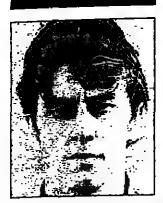
right, and perhaps challenge for the European title if a suitable opening presents

Trickett now expects Brodie to defend his British title, to try

rounders first."

Getting shirty over a personal thing

McMANAMAN



on how a simple idea was misread

THE T-shirt I wore under my Liverpool jersey against SK Brann, of Norway, had a small logo saying "Support the sacked dockworkers". I explain this, because nobody actually knew what was on it despite the almost hysterical response after the match.

There have been sugg tions in certain parts of the media that I and Robbie Fowler will face some sort of sanction for what was, apparently, a massive political statement. It was such a massive statement that the same people had to ask me after the game what the message was.

They didn't know, because they didn't see even when Robbie lifted his jersey after scoring. My T-shirt was only on display at the end of the match when I swapped shirts. Yet here we are now, getting all excited by it.

I was given the T-shirt by a friend of my dad's, who was one of the 500 workers sacked. They are on strike and have not had any wages for two

I thought I would wear it under my shirt, merely as a small statement of support for people, some of whom are iriends, not as a grand gesture. It is not politics, I am not trying to change people's

workers, Robbie I am concerned about the and I have offered dockworkers; it is important to personal support. me because I know a lot of but we are not these people and I know what arrogant enough they have gone through. Tto believe that by just wearing a shirts have emerged in recent years as a way of making a T-shirt we are statement; but essentially it is

a fun thing. It started out as a celebration — you score a goal and it is an extension of the delight you feel. Ravanelli has taken it a stage farther with his shirtover-the-head trick and there

variations. There have been political comments before. In France, the national squad all wore anti-racism T-shirts and I can agree with that. If it is an important issue for everyone. then sure, go ahead and do it. But I still feel it is largely a humorous medium: a celebra-



Fowler displays the message that caused a fuss about nothing during the match with SK Brann at Anfield. Photograph: Marc Aspland

tion of the art of the I've worn T-shirts with comments on them before, just jokes really, and Robbie Fowler has had a few. If something is really important to you, if you feel really strongly, then I can see no harm in commenting on it. It can be an easy way of express-ing your feelings, but really it is a personal thing. I wouldn't think that massive

> 'I am not trying to change people's opinions'

making a difference. All we wanted to do was to give the people we know who have not had any pay for a couple of years a bit of a lift.

political issues are

served well by

being on a T-shirt.

With the dock-

I understand that some bigname pop stars are to stage a few concerts in Liverpool to Now that is a more tangible benefit that will perhaps offer support in a far more important manner. I am happy that people know how strongly I feel, but as I have stressed in this column before that it is not a moral crusade, just a personal point.

Some people have suggested

we could set a trend now, but I don't think so. T-shirts are just an amusing aside and the messages are best done by people such as Ian Wright. who cracks me up. He is the one who has probably made it more popular than anybody else. Mind you, I think Paul Tait, of Birmingham City. perhaps had quite a bit to do with bringing it into the public consciousness — although not strictly in the best

> I won't be wearing a slogan on my T-shirt this evening against Arsenal. If I score, then I don't think l will need any messages to express the way I am feeling, because this is a match that has

taken on huge significance after Manchester United beat Everton on Saturday. Really, we have to win what

is, by any standards, a difficult game. Under any other circumstances, going to Arsenal and coming away with even a point would be regarded as an impressive result. Not now. We know we have to keep within touching distance of United and that means only a win will suffice tonight.

Such are the pressures at the top at this time of the season. We are not unduly worried by the game tonight, we know what we have to do

and will go out to give it everything. But I do believe that we are not going to be given much assistance as we try to lift the championship and continue to pursue success in the European Cup Winners' Cup. It is ridiculous. but we face the prospect of playing four vital games in nine days. Four games that will define our season with barely a day's rest between them. Now where is the logic in that? We play Everton and Manchester United in the

league - traditionally Liverpool's two hardest games of the season — Paris Saint-Germain in the Cup Winners' Cup and then Coventry in the league. Apart from anything else, aren't we supposed to be ambassadors for the English game in Europe? How are we supposed to do English football justice with a programme like that? Yet, if we are beaten by the French, the inquests will start, there will be intense hand-wringing about how English football is lagging behind its continental rivals.

It is madness. We have to win all four of those games if we are going to pursue honours, but surely it is unrealistic to ask any team to do that without any recovery time. Every year it seems something like this happens and every year the talk is of resolving the problem. It is about time the talk is translated into action.



The T-shirt statement turned into an art form by Wright

Hooligan sideshow mars honest spectacle

United give short shrift to tide of abuse

Manchester United...

By MICHAEL HENDERSON.

THERE is a story, quite true, of a barrister who took his friend, the judge, to watch Manchester United play at Goodison Park. Embarrassed to hear sections of the crowd respond with abuse to the call of "Un-i-ted!", the barrister turned round to apologise. only to see the judge joining in. What do you think you're doing?" he asked. "I ve always loathed those red bastards,"

the judge said. Nothing changes where United are concerned. After ten minutes of this strangely uninvolving match, the crowd encouraged people to stand up if they hated "the Mancs", and a few thousand did. After 20 minutes they invited Eric Cantona to go home, though not quite so politely. Five minutes from time some of the Great Unwashed began that ghastly "song" about the Munich air crash. It was a heart-warming afternoon all

Gosh am I being rude about football supporters? Goodness gracious, they are the sait of the earth, are they not? If we are in any doubt,

Full results and league tables . Page 30

then a film based on Nick Hornby's grossly overpraised book, Fever Pitch, will shortly remind everybody just how much the game means to "real people". They would do better to go back to Arthur Hopcraft, who wrote a much better book 30 years ago and who never gave silly interviews passing himself off as an expert on fiction, even though he knew rather more about the subject.

Hatred: there is too much of it in English football, and most of it is directed at Manchester United, who have brought some distinction. to the game recently and continue to emphasise its good points. For this, they are repaid with gross behaviour, and mockery.
When, for instance, Fergu-

on, the lourish Everson centre forward, caught May with a reckless elbow midway through the first half, flattening him in the process, the crowd booed May the next time he touched the ball. Is day night? Beckham, who was understandably vexed by this monstrous foul, had to endure the hooting of the crowd for the rest of the half.

It is all very well, as a biliboard at Goodison proclaims, to "kick racism" out of football. Why stop there? There are other forms of

intolerance, and they can be heard every Saturday all over England. To point this out, as John Arlott and others have done, is somehow not to play the game. People in football are surprised when those who take a broader view mention. that this sort of thing simply does not happen elsewhere. The fact is, many football followers do not really love the game. They love their own side, and detest everybody

Now, here are three reasons. why United will retain the

championship:
1. Peter Schmeichel. As Paul Gerrard was gifting United two goals, the Dane stood tall and proud: the best goalkeeper in the league.

2. Roy Keane. Even in a match as moderate as this, he stood out as United's important first line of defence. He is more than that, of course, but essenplaying as they would like. How Liverpool must wish that they had somebody like that, 3. The Frenchman. He did not do much on Saturday, but beis always good value and, by shaking the referee's hand after some minor disagreement, he made the Everton crowd howl even louder. A nice touch. For all the tosh written about him, he remains outstanding.

It was interesting to note the reactions of both scorers to their goals. Solskjaer, after turning Watson inside out on the edge on the box to score with a crisp left-footed shot that Gerrard should have stopped, regarded his with bewilderment, as though he had accomplished something that strained belief. Cantona, who gently volleyed the second when Gerrard hopelessly misjudged Beckham's cross, turned away as though he had completed a move of rare

Everton's one recognisable ploy is to hoof the ball up to Perguson as often as possible. and the higher the better. Ferguson is not, actually, all that good and, when Rideout trotted on for the second half, one wondered how such an unremarkable player can sustain a career for so long at this level. Barmby, all £5.75 million of him, looked quite out of it. Everton are a mess.

In Pallister's absence, May had a fine game at centre half and, though clobbered by Ferguson's elbow, he refused to buckle. Somehow he has made himself into a decent player, which reflects well upon his character, and also upon his manager's judgment. But we knew that bit already. But We Shiew that off all ready.

EVERTON (4-4-2): P General — E Bernel, D
Wasson, D Lipsworth, T Phelan — C Thomper
(sub. P Fideout, 45mn). J Parkinson N
Bernby, G Speed — G Suert, D Faguson
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P
Schmachel — D Irven, D May, G Patisson
(sub: R Johnson, 38). P Newse — D
Bachtern (sub: B McCler, 81), N But, R
Keane, R Goggs — E Cempone, O G Solskaar
Referee: D Galagher

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Aston Villa ... BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

Blackburn Rovers 0

AS THE Aston Villa "supporter" showed off the blood on his new sweater — the result of a skirmish between rival supporters at Mill Hill station, a brisk stroll from Ewood Park English football rediscovered its true perspective. Hooliganism is not dead, never has been, but has merely been bubbling away insidiously beneath the surface.

It has been admirably controlled for so long, no greater exemplified than during Euro 96, and credit is due to the controllers. Yet, while society's ills exist, the football match is still the vehicle for the mindless outpouring of tribal aggression.

Given the opportunity, not necessarily the motive, it will happen. On Saturday, on the

Road stand at Queens Park Rangers became a battle ground, the incident at Mill Hill was relatively trivial. Vilia had eased past Blackburn Rovers, with second-half goals from Johnson and Yorke, and the respective followers mingled passively on

the platform. A word out of place, though. a north-south jibe too far, and it went off. With not a representative of law and order in sight, the punching started. Only when the trains mercifully pulled out - one transporting the home supporters into Blackburn, the other taking the returning visitors en route to Birmingham - did the untutored kick-boxing

Even then, insults were traded. Were it not for the premature self-preserving exit at Bamber Bridge of one gallant yet misguided Lancastrian, who had valiantly tried

subside.

to stem the torrent of abuse Blackburn and Villa do not ity, was not a sideshow. It was from his tormentor, more blood could have been spilt on arrival in Preston. Had it ignited on the train — a grossly inadequate two-carriage conveyance, with men, women and children sardined together - the consequences are unfit to contemplate.



have a history of skulduggery is all the more worrying. In mitigation, it was possibly a one-off, inevitably fuelled by a surfeit of alcohol and ultimately sparked by indiscreet re-

gional antipathy. Yet the response of those concerned was scary. They wanted it, they were up for it, they enjoyed it, however brief. It had not been a controversial match, it had not been a passionate derby; it was no more than a regulation FA Carling Premiership encounter, with a deserved winner and an honourable loser.

It was not enough, though. The smug-faced warriors, thrown together by circumstance, desired more. A bit of extra-curricular activity and to hell with those innocently ensnared; an away game, an away win and a spot of bovver". A great day out. Perfect.

Rovers v Villa, to the major-

not particular enjoyable, either, with Villa overcoming initial lethargy to enhance their prospects of a Uefa Cup place next season. It was their first away success in the league since December.

Brian Little, the Villa man-

ager, conceded that he had ordered a more direct approach than usual. "We tried to work their centre backs, we tried to hit the strikers and hit the channels early," he said, in a rare lapse into managerspeak. "I don't really want us to be labelled as direct, I hate all that, but we did bypass the midfield more often than normal. If the passes are good, though, then it's OK."

Blackburn were handi-capped by the loss of Sutton, who unwisely headed Ehiogu's head in only the second minute and was eventually carried off on a stretcher and taken to hospital with concussion. Pedersen, his re-

before retiring with an ankle initury, which only highlighted Blackburn's deficiencies. Punchless in attack, they were defensively lax, too - nobody picking up Johnson as he dispatched Wright's throughball and Hendry's poor backpass letting in Yorke. Most spectators dispersed afic mor

peacefully, whether disgruntled or joyous. Only the Mill Hill few, eyes bulging in obscene excitement, disgraced the occasion. The yob, the proud wearer of a bloodstained sweater, is back; he is

Not that he has ever been

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4.3-2-1): 1 Flowers — J Kenna, H Berg, C Hendry, G Le Saux — T Sharwood, W McKinlay, G Hitcord (sub : Bohner, 70mm) — K Gallacher, J Wilcox — C Sutton (sub : Pedersen, 5; Sub, G Donne, 55) ASTON VILLA (3.5-2) M Bosnich — U Briogu, S Staunton R Someca — F Nelson, M Draper, I Taylor, A Townsend, A Wright — S Milosevic (sub; T Johnson, 60), D Yorke

Thrilling Leeds rewrite Graham's boring script die-inspired six-goal thrashing, Kelan already glorious spring afternoon might have been overstating the Sheffield Wednesday.....

Leeds United...

Ву Кептн Ріке

SOME words do not sit happily together in the same sentence Le Tissier and consistency, Brighton and stability, for instance. Others are strictly prohibited: Birmingham and Premiership, Blackburn and affection. But, if football's phrasebook were rewritten today, an appendix entitled "temporarily unbanned" might be needed to include Leeds United and entertainment, or George Graham and, well,

entertainment. Even Graham seemed taken aback by the verve and spontaneity with which Leeds had illuminated at Hillsborough, at least for an bour. "I didn't tell them to play like that," he protested. His reputation is at risk. Strong words may follow at Elland Road this week, along the lines of: "Crowd pleasers are all very well, but what about the points? Leeds did not win, after all. Gosh,

they even conceded a couple of goals. But, like it or lump it - and so frequently it has been the latter --Graham's Leeds were a revelation. For once, the manager in the Armani suit had sent out a team not weighed down by a tactical straitjacket. The travelling supporters at the Leppings Lane end were delirious, staging a mass semi-naked, shirt-waving singsong at half-time. One seasoned observer/ even compared Leeds to Real Madrid, which

case, but it emphasised the magnitude of the culture shock. Leeds, the king of the clean sheets, and the country's least potent attacking force, were thrilling. One afternoon of apparently un-

scripted vision will not prevent Graham from dismantling this team in the summer. Yeboah, Palmer, Deane, Rush and Wetherail are among those on their way out, or rumoured to be. On Saturday, though. Rush and Deane were instrumental figures in a fine allround performance which keeps Leeds in with an outside chance of European qualification should those above them in the FA Carling

Premiership stutter on the run-in. On the ground where, last season, Leeds suffered a humiliating Wadly and Dorigo overlapped at will, Sharpe raided from the left, and Bowyer and Rush moved into the gaps created by the unselfish running of Deane and Wallace.

Wednesday, among this season's most watchable teams, might have been overrun. Leeds led twice, Sharpe and Wallace converting two of the ten decent openings that they created in the first half, but Radebe left Hirst free to head Wednesday's first equaliser from a corner and Carbone's cleverness created another for Booth early in the second half. Wednesday might bave won, Martyn saving from Hirst after the pass of the day from Carbone, but that would have been a travesty.

"It was a superb performance, the best since I arrived, but there were

no special instructions," Graham. who was particularly pleased with Bowyer's contribution, said. How, though, did he explain it?

There's no secret. Most managers, myself included, want committed players. I only want players who want to play for me. I have never told them just to go out and hit the ball long, I tell them to defend as a team and attack as a team. Last week I said the same and we had a nightmare first half at Tottenham. but today we were excellent." Long may it continue.

SHEPHELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2) K Pressman — I Noian, D Watter, D Stelanove | Species — G trighem, R Humphreys (sub. W Golfins, 78min) arbone (sub. R Blinker, 89), M Pamindoe — D B Carbone (sub' n Enrice), 601, 701 F. S. H. F.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MONTGAGE OF OTHER COMMISSION

Redknapp

delights

in impact of

timely

arrivals

BY PAT GIBSON

HARRY REDKNAPP was at

his wits' end. It was not just

the fact that his West Ham

United side could not score

goals in the FA Carling Pre-

miership, he could not even

see them scoring on the train-/

ing ground when they were

playing against each other.
Then he spent £5.5 million

on John Hartson and Paul

Kitson, the goals started to come and II points from their

past six games have not only

lifted them out of the bottom

three, but also suggested that

they may not have to keep

Coventry City

West Ham United.

going through this sort of thing every season. "It was an impossible situaion," Redknapp said after Hartson, aided and abetted by Kitson, had scored two of the goals that enabled West Ham to put three points and plenty of troubled sky blue water between themselves and Coventry City, who may have gone to the brink once too

"I never said it publicly or even to the team," Redknapp said. "But I thought to myself, 'how can I win football matches when I haven't got the players who can score goals'. I knew we could not survive. Once these two arrived, it gave the rest of the players a lift and they started to believe that we could win some games."

Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, must wish it was all that simple. He thought he had the players capable of winning games, more than £20 million worth of them, but they are either not listening to what he tells them or, for some reason best known to themselves, choosing to ignore him.

They started well enough. Huckerby leading a series of lightning raids that resulted in Rieper, under pressure from Dublin, heading a Richardson cross into his own goal after eight minutes.

simply lost their way and Hartson and Kitson made them pay. In the 27th minute, Kitson deftly headed on Moncur's cross and Hartson steered it past Ogrizovic. again got a vital touch to allow

Ferdinand to poke the ball in. Then, four minutes into the second half, Kitson's shot rebounded to Hartson, who finished with a crisp shot.

Intristed With a Crisp shot.

COVENTRY CITY (3-6-2): S Ogrizova. — G.
Breen, D Dubin, R Shaw — P Teffer, G.
Modiss, K Richardson, P Wellins, M Nat.
Rub. P Nofflow, 5 Inni — N Windan (sub: B
Borrows, 69), D Huctarby
WEST HAM UNITED (5-3-2), I. Millotako —
T Breaches (sub: K Howland, 33), S Potts, S
Bitc., M Risper, J Doles — R Ferdinand
(sub: 1 Dowle, 89), I Sethop Isut: H Porfine,
49), J Monitar — P Kissen, J Hartson

with it.



FOOTBALL: COLOMBIAN'S SUBLIME FREE KICK RESCUES POINT FOR IMPOVERISHED NEWCASTLE AT SELHURST PARK

Asprilla's artistry colours drab spectacle

Newcastle United

The state of the s

BY ROB HUGHES FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

POVERTY comes in many disguises. In the FA Carling Premiership, Newcastle United, as rich as they come, and Wimbledon, who make silk purses out of sow's ears, are both suffering in the final furlong as they try to ensure the Uefa Cup place that they feel their season demands.

Wimbledon had won but once in Il League matches; Newcastle were on the rebound from defeat in Monaco, where Sir John Hall, their club chairman and paymaster, had reportedly said that players should be ashamed of themselves.

It showed, on both sides. Wimbledon, with a small squad and playing for the tenth time in 22 days, were

Results and tables Palace power . Scottish commentary 31

weary. Newcastle, without Alan Shearer and Les Ferdinand, were shadows of the cavaliers who began the season under Kevin Keegan.

And yet there was one transcendental moment. It came from Faustino Asprilla, who equalised Oyvind Leonhardsen's first-half strike in the 52nd minute.

Newcastle had won a free kick just outside the penalty box, for a foul on Ginola. It was the position that Shearer so relishes; he would have smashed it with uncompromising British beef past the goalkeeper. Not so Asprilia.

After Elliott had feigned to take the kick, the Colombian sauntered towards the ball and then, caressing it, with just enough power, but almost radar-guided accuracy and swerve, to outwit goalkeeper Neil Sullivan. It was positively graceful; the arc with which Asprilla bent that ball into the

How the 7,000 Geordie fans



Asprilla elegantly curls a free kick over the leaping Wimbledon wall for the Newcastle equaliser in the second half of the Premiership encounter at Selhurst Park yesterday

applauded their imported hero, despite two subsequent failures to head a winner. They had little else to celebrate as the zest and the joy which Keegan had invested in this team was, again squashed at source by his successor as

manager, Kenny Dalglish. When a side defends as poorly as do Newcastle, it seems almost criminal to eschew the virtues of attack. Peter Beardsley had wanted to play, and expected to play. Barely an hour before kick-off he talked, with typical enthusichampionship, though he acknowledged that that would entail winning every game.

And then, poor Peter was consigned to the bench. Newcastle were constrained in the 4-5-i formation that represents the Dalglish method of trying to erase the defensive generosity he inherited. One wanted to shout that it goes against the very nature, that next summer - when, doubtless. Dalglish will wheel and deal a new balance - will be the time to make his mark.

As it was, Newcastle were

Ginola produced one long shot, which was flicked over the bar by Sullivan. True, Ginola was booed at every turn because Cunningham, booked for a late foul on the Frenchman, was outraged by the histrionics of his opponent.

Wimbledon were poor. True,

However, few could argue vhen, in the 28th minute, Wimbledon scored their goal. It typified the inadequacy of the Newcastle defence, and the alermess that Leonhardsen brings at his best

A free kick had been poorly cleared. Leonhardsen pumped

the ball back in and, when Lee, often Newcastle's most committed player, was challenged by Harford, the ball went spinning to Leon-hardsen. From 15 yards, the Norwegian swung his left foot at the ball and, thanks to a late dive from Hislop, the best the goalkeeper could do was help one-handed, into the far

corner of his goal. Both Ekoku and Gayle produced deft touches for such swift, counter-attacking strikers. Gayle, who might even be worthy of an England place touch, hooking the bail gently over the shoulder of Elliott and moving round him to regather it before the defender knew which way to turn. Ekoku too, could turn defenders, indeed, with a flick of the hips, he eluded two of them before crossing the ball for Earle, whose late appearance in the box would have brought the match-winner had Peacock not headed clear from

others, demonstrated one

breathtaking aspect of his

1001年

beneath the bar. Peacock saved another opportunity, but then Peacock is

Peacock, and he gave the ball away to Leonhardsen, whose instant pass offered Holdsworth, the substitute, a chance to claim an FA Cup semi-final place in the team. Holdsworth drove his shot strong and true. but Hislop stretched high to cling on to the ball ... and a draw was a fitting end to the affair.

Limping Le Tissier remains hopeful of another escape

By Brian Glanville

IT IS tough at the bottom. Southampton and Leicester City scratched out a result on Saturday which did not please either manager very much. "Sloppy goals," Matthew Le Tissier called the two Southampton gave away. When the first went in after he had cleared from the line, he kicked a post in frustration.

Would he be fit to play for England against Mexico, given the painful foot and the groin injury? With typically honesty, he replied:

Tissier stayed on the field for 90 minutes. It was the quicksilver little Israeli, Eyal Berkovic, who surprisingly came off, after 63 minutes. He had been the salient figure of the first half, his ball skills a delight, his passing often inspired. He set up Ostenstad for the low cross shot which put Southapton ahead in the 32nd minute.

The explanation for his substitution by Southampton's worried manager, Graeme Souness, was: "I just thought the game was passing

England training, might exacerbate his injuries. Le Tissier himself admitted that by the end of a game his injuries stiffen up. "I struggle. I

try to limp through. Before anxiety set in after halftime, it was Southampton who played the football. Without a home win for three months, they took the game to Leicester. When the frustrated crowd shouted: "Have a shot!", they responded.

But after the interval, came the transformation. "We did better in

The way I feel at the moment, I him by. It was going over his head." the second half," Martin O'Neill, As for Le Tissier. "What we are Leicester's manager, said, "A cynic and Southampton went ahead scared off is that we're going to end would say we couldn't possibly do again from another confusing cor-After playing only half a game up with a Paul Gascoigne situa- any worse. I was just pleased to get ner. Le Tissier took it from the right,

The powerful, promising Emile Heskey came to life. As O'Neill said: When he declares himself fit, he plays." Heskey's attacking partner, Steve Claridge, became more threatening, too.

Both scored goals, of a sort. Stunningly for Southampton, the first one came just a couple of minutes into the second half. Parker took an inswinging left-wing corner, izzet headed it, confusion followed. Claridge shot, Le Tissier blocked on the line, the ball went in off Heskey.

Another three minutes, however. the ball in.

But Southampton had plainly lost the plot. When Heskey, from the right, tacked past Taylor, it took a desperate horizontal block by Neilsen to keep the ball out. Heskey. a few minutes later, made space for

a shot which Taylor saved. Then, after 72 minutes, the Southampton goal fell again. Van Gobbel seemed to have won the ball in a duel with Guppy out on the right wing but then lost it again. Guppy found Lennon who surged to the "We've got to show more bottle",

byline, cut the ball back, and it

eventually went into the goal off

has still not given up hope of a great "I have immense self-belief, and also draw upon the experience of past years when we've been in

equally sticky situations and got out of them.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): 14 Taylor — U ven Gobbel, R Dryden, A Nelsen, S Cherkon — J Magilton, R Stater, E Berkovic (sub M Evens, 63mm), M Orakley — E Ostenstad (sub S Basherr, 75). M Le Tisster. roj. M. La 1938t., LECESTER CITY (3-5-2), K. Poole — P. Kearnark (aub. J. Watts, 79), S. Walsh, M. Etiloti, — M. Izzel, N. Lannon, G. Parker (aub. J. Lawrance, 81), S. Guppy, S. Grayson — E. Hestary, S. Clandge. Reference, R. Burco.

Waddle unable to break the mould

Sunderland Nottingham Forest....... 1

By RICHARD HOBSON

IT WAS sales time in the Sunderland club shop. Supporters rushed to the stack of discounted merchandise, failing to notice one new item on offer. There, in a corner, stood a row of T-shirts bearing a portrait of the local boy made good, above the words "True Colours". Chris Waddle was

coming home. Roker Park has changed little since Waddle spent some of the happiest days of his boyhood at the Fulwell End. What has evolved is the game. On Saturday, like those Tshirts, Waddle was stranded away from the centre of attention and lost in the chaos around him.

In the second half we did not get the ball out to Chris often enough." Peter Reid, the manager, said afterwards. Football, like fashion, has its cycles and it was easy to recall the burning issue during Graham Taylor's period as England manager. Even at the age of 36, Waddle might be more effective in a free role rather than as an orthodox winger. As Taylor had many times before him. Reid indicated that the option would be considered, but not with any great enthusiasm.

Sunderland have managed to stay out of the bottom three through lung power. They have jostled, harried and cajoled and woe betide any side, such as Manchester United, that underestimates them.

Waddle was signed to vary the tempo. Thus, he slouched pasty-faced along the left flank as if in need of an oxygen mask; but appearances can

and the second s

deceive, particularly where Waddle'is concerned.

In the 83rd minute he switched to the right to produce his party-piece and it almost secured the victory that his side deserved. Dragging the ball along with his left foot. apparently harmlessly, he dropped his shoulder, accelerated between Roy and Pearce and shot narrowly wide.

Such moments of skill were all too rare on an afternoon full of anxiety. In the first half Bridges, a flowering talent, hit the bar and Van Hooijdonk squandered a good position at the opposite end, yet, when Ball met Waddle's corner with a thundering volley in the 61st minute, it appeared that Forest would struggle to recover. What a surprise, then, when Lyttle shot into the far corner four minutes from the end after Sunderland failed to

clear a free kick from Pearce. Despite the recent takeover. Forest, who face Middlesbrough today, are still a club with problems. It ill-befits a side crafted by Brian Clough to rely on high balls to Van Hooijdonk. Saunders badly needs a goal; Roy a firework up the backside. Woan, a peripheral influence here, but a good player on his day, is

clearly unhappy.

There is confusion over the roles of Pearce, the caretakermanager, and Bassett, the general manager. Who is in charge? Come May. Waddle might be grateful that his proposed move to the City Ground fell through.

SUNDERLAND (4-4-1-1) L Perez — G Hall L Honey, R Ord, D Kutach — M Gray P Bracawell, K Bell, C Waddle — A Rae — M Bridges (sub. P Stewen, 73mm) snages (sub P Stewen, 73min)
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2)
Crossley — D Lyttle C Cooper, 5 Chenle
Pearce — D Philips, All Haakend,
Germfilt, I Woon (sub, B Roy 65) —
Saunders (sub I Moore 71), P -2
Hooklond, C Allerians (Sub B Roy 65)

Derby display will worthy of copying

Derby County...... Tottenham Hotspur...... 2

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT IS in Belgium, apparently. where scientists have accidentally cloned the first human. If that were north London, then it would be eminently more believable. Meet Tottenham Hotspur, the world's first football clones.

It is an interesting concept

Eleven Ruud Gullits or Bryan Robsons might win a trophy or two, but not the unidentified player Tottenham seemed to have cloned their team from. Eleven players, all skilful enough, adequate technically and probably nice lads to introduce to your mums. But passion? Spirit? Forget it. Derby County, on the other hand, now here is a team to drive the cloners up the wall.

They come in all shapes and sizes, there is technique (very sketchy) in patches and no obviously blinding talent. But send them out to run at a brick wall and they would do it willingly.

It was one of those Baseball Ground afternoons. Tottenham, for all their pretty skills and fancy patterns, were never going to win this FA Carling Premiership match on Saturday. Even when they almost bizarrely found themselves back all square at 2-2 just after the interval, there was never any suggestion that they would secure victory.

If they are going to clone success at Tottenham, they must hope it is not merely physical attributes that can be reproduced. Derby displayed some of the baser requirements in achieving a victory that goes some way to ensuring Premiership survival.

They rolled up their sleeves and punched their weight. If the scientists are able to

clone managers in the future then they are unlikely to look like Jim Smith. The Derby manager. though, knows what this business is all about and he has identified the Baseball Ground as Derby's most potent weapon in their struggle against the cloying embrace of relegation. Two wins from five remain-

ing home games was the target he set before this match and he has got one now, thanks in large part to the emotion generated by one of the most intimidating crowds remaining in the new middleclass world of football. The roar as Derby stepped up a gear to disperse thoughts of a Tottenham revival was

intense. Sturridge was inspired on 68 minutes to beat two defenders and curl his shot past Walker, with the help of a deflection for the third goal. A minute later and the game was over with Ward. the substitute, stabbing home Dailly's knockdown. It was the same story in the

first half, a frightening intensity of noise willing goals for Van Der Laan, a volley, and a wonderful first for the club by Trolloge. Tottenham play pretty stuff

that is at times effective, as

goals from Rosenthal, the substitute, and a tap-in by Dozzell, after a good save by Taylor, testified. But when it mattered. Derby desired the win and Tottenham did not. DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2) M Taylor — J Legister PlatoGraft, C Dailly — L Carsley, Platon tell ham P Trolopt (sub-D Powell, General Jakanono C Powell — M Carbon (5-a) Platono C Standige Fig. 2. Act of Discovery TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-Ab), I Walker — Discovery Scales, C. Caldonnood, S. Carrotter — Sicar A Nielsen, J Discoul A. Serron — A. F. Rosenfrat (26) — Silverson, E. Section, act.

Juninho's ball skills too much for Chelsea

Middlesbrough.. Chelsea.

BY MAKE HODKINSON

FOOTBALLERS of a certain vintage used to call it "car park football". It was an aphorism for that rare player who could play the game with a liberated heart, mind and feet. In literal terms, he would perform with the same joi de vivre on the pitch as he would, say, on the club car park.

Juninho is a car park footballer. His game is a celebration of the moment and is not encumbered by anything except the pleasure of playing, of running, of dancing across the grass. Schoolboy-sized, he is a little lad watching his older brother's pals booting the ball around on some waste land. Ten minutes before tea-time, they succumb to his pleas and let him join in -- they do not want to hurt his feelings. Thereafter, the ball and Juninho are a blur and they can no longer take part in their own game. The next day they will fight among themselves to

be in Juninho's team. If Juninho had been raised in St Helens or Swindon rather than São Paulo, he would not be a car park footballer, and perhaps not a professional footballer at all. Coaches would have deemed his marvellous dribbling to be greedy and indulgent. He would have been trampled into the mud, told to attend another trial when he had put on a few stone in weight.

By a circuitous route, Juninho has arrived in the North East of England and, on Saturdays, at least, there is now a speck of beauty among Middlesbrough's pylons, cooling towers, chemical works and shopping precincts. This beauty stays with people all week, in the offices and fac-tories. It sweetens their lives. In a recent supporter's poll. Juninho was voted Middlesbrough's best ever foreign player by a remarkable distance. He received 78 per cent of the votes, while Ravanelli and Emerson scored just 3 per

cent and 2 per cent. Chelsea, poor souls, found Juninho in irresistible form. They sometimes got close enough to clip his heel or bundle him to the turf, but Juninho was up again, ready to accept their apologies. This benign temperament and a general willingness to work for the team has consolidated the adoration.

Middlesbrough dominated from the start, but failed to score until eight minutes after half-time. Juninho threaded through the defence, passed to Beck and he crossed to the near post where Juninho gleefully headed home.

Chelsea, who had hitherto

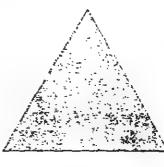
been lethargic and without imagination, pressed forward and the remainder of the match was joyously exciting. with chances made and mis However, the exhibaration of Juninho's day was matched by the wretchedness of Vialli's, who had made one of his

infrequent full appearances. His control was poor, his shooting dire and he was plagued by the kind of ill luck that, on another day, would see him miss two buses and he run over by the third.

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-4-1-2) M Schweizer — N. Pearson, G. Festa, C. Flerning — N. Cox, P. Stamp, (sub. A Moore, Stamp, sub. S. Vickess, Edg., Emerson, C. Blackmark — Juninto — M. Buck, C.

rigress (3-5-2) F Goodes — F Sincler, S Clarke, E Johnsen (sub M Hughes, 46) — D Patescou (sub P Parker, 76), C Burley, D Wise, R D. Matteo (sub, P Hughes, 76), S Minto — G Zole, G Vialli.





And a beer to go



(0) 0 ASTOM VILLA Johnson 64 Yorks 79

(1) 1 WEST HAM Hartson 27, 49 Ferdurand 34

Tottestham Hotspur, I Walter, D Austin, C Calderwood, A Nielsen, E Stemingham, J Dozzell, S Iverson, S Campbell, J Scales, S Carr & Sinton (soin R Rocenthal, 20mm). Referen: S Durn.

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FIRST DIVISION

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SECOND DIVISION

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FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

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(0) 1 CHELSEA 29,811 **June 10** 53 Jamesho 53

29,811

Middlesbrough: M. Schwatzer N. Cox. N. Pearson. Emeraco., M. Beck. Ameriko. C. Flendog, C. Blachmer: G. Festa. P. Stamp (sutr. A. Moore, Zimin, S. Victors, Stiron), C. Hignedt.

Dischart. F. F. Cox. D. Petrescu (sutr. P. Parler, ? Emiln), S. Clarie, G. Wall. D. Wife, C. Burley, R. Di. Matteo (sutr. P. Hughez, Rison), S. Minto, E. Johnson (subr. M. Hughes, Allond), F. Sociair, G. Zota. Coventry City S Ograzona, R Sharr, P Williams, M Hall (sub P Hollow), Schmit), G Breen, K Richandson, P Teller, G McAlfister, N Whelan (sub, D Borrows, 68mm), B Dublot, D West Ham United: L Midosko. T Breacker (sub: K Rowland, Somer), J Dicks, S Potts, S Billic, M Rieper, R Ferdinand (sub: 1 Down, 8 Ferdinand), J Moneya 1 Bishop (sub: 14 Portuna

Booked: Di Matteo, M Hughes.

Sheffield Wednesday, R. Pressner, I. Nolan, M. Perribrid, D. Walker, S. Whitingham, B. Carbone, (sub: R. Benk, Bernar). D. Hirst, A. Book, L. Brezne, D. Steizntove, Hospineys, (sub: W. Coffins, Tarvoy).
Booked: Huspineys, Steiznovic, Booth, Horst, Coffins, Leeds United: N. Martyn, G. Nelly (sub: D. Wetheratt, 77roin). A. Dortgo, L. Radelo, I. Shuppe, R. Walface, I. Ruch, B. Deane, L. Bouyer, G. Halle, R. Molanziar.
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SUBMOERLAND) House, C. Windle,
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Cooper, S. Chettle, D. Phillips, S. Gernmit, D. Sannters (and I.
Moore, Trainity, I. Weam (sub. B. Rey., 65cmm), P. was
Hoolydook, A. I. Haaland.

(1) 1 MENICASTLE (0) 1 Wimbledon: N. Sullivan, X. Cummentam, A. Kumble Blacknell, O. Leonhardsen, R. Earle, E. Eliciu, M. Gayle, Puny, M. Hartord (sub; D. Holdswadh, 62mm), P. Fasz. Larry, or return (2007; O Holdsteach, EZmin), P Fiss.

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UNIBOND

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THIS WEEK'S FOOTBALL

TODAY FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP Arsenal Middlesbrough v Nottingham Forest (7.45) SPALDING CHALLENGE CUP Semi-final, second leg. Yuddeminster (2) v Famborough (3) (7-45)

TOMORROW NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division. Ponsmicitle vi Reading (7.45) Second division Creae - Ensite Cry Note County Bury (7.45) Romemanny Grington (7.45) Weekham y Brestlord Third division: Soncaster -

second leg: Stockport (0) v Cariste (2) VALUEHALL CONFERENCE: Annonamy in Hechestasc (7.45), Keltering is Stevenage (7.45), Welling is Fushber and Diamonds (7.45), Welling is Haves (7.45). Spaiding Challenge Cup: Semi-final second leg: MacDesheld (2) -Morecambe (0) (7-45)

FRIDAY EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Quatdying group four: Scotland v Estonia lat Fortibasis Sacrum Stirling, 2 01 Group seven Wales v Belgum (st. 1910) Field, Swansea Cris AFC) NATIONWIDE LEAGUE First division: Bartisle, a West Bromarch (7.45) Charllon's Hundersheld (3.0) Treathers a Southend (7.45) Second division: Wesham & Wathaild Proporties VALIXHALL CONFERENCE: Halfar v Southport (7 45)

Paul Ince, the Internazionale midfield player, launches an attack against Verona

in their Italian League match which Inter won 2-1. Photograph: Carlo Fumagalli

PREMER DIVISION: Bishop's Stortout 2 Sutton United 5; Screham Wood 3 Staines 0. Bromley 1 Grays 2: Contration 1 Kingstorsen 3; Chertsey 0 St Alberts 5. Hendon 2 Herrow 1; Oxford City 1 Dulwich 1; Yeading 1 Puriled 1; Yeard 3 Aylesbury

Grayt 30 % 618 30 \$5 24
Chertsey Town 34 % 5 23 31 82 23
FRST DIVISION: Abingdon Town 1 Tooting and Mitcherm 0; Barton 0 Aldershot Town 0; Billericay 0 Bognor Regs 0; Chesharr 0 Whyteleafe 1: Croydon 1 Berkhernsted 0; Maldershead United 1 Worthing 3; Martow 1 Basingstolie 0; Molesey 3 Tharne 2; Unbrodge 2 Leyfon Perment 2; Walton and Hersham 1 Hampton 0; Wolsingham 1 Canvey Island 2; Second division: Brackers 3 Dorking 2; Chaffort 5! Peter 0 Berking 1: Cheshum 0 Horsham 2; Colier Row and Romacot 1 Warmblay 0; Edgwere 1 Tilbury 0; Hungerford 3 Hernel Hempstead 0; Lestherhead 0 Bedford Town 2; Ware 1 Eghtem 2; Windsor and Elon 2 Metropolitan Polica 2; Windsor on Election 1 Composition 0 Harlow 2; Epsom and Evel 2 Camberley 3; Homothuruch 1 East Thumock 1; Graysbury 0 Plackwell Health 2; Lewes 1 Tring 1; Southall 1 Wealdettone 1; Wingele and Frinchey 1 Awaley 1.

SATURDAY

ikok-off 30 **untess statist**i INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Secand v Mexico (at Wembley WORLD CUP: European qualifying group four: Scotland Estonia let Fughy Park, Kilmamocki, Group sevent Wates v Seignum (at Carolff Arms Park, 7.0). Group nine: Northern Ireland v Portugal (at Windson Park, Bellest).

Northern Ireland v Portugal iat Windson Park, Bellasti.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Crystal Palace V.
Simmopham, "Orders United a Curens Park Rangers:
Perismouth v Braction: Steffield United v Reading, Stoke v
Curiam, Sacritan v Northolt, Postporned: Wolverhampton
v Constry Second division: Brestoid v Bay, Bristol Cay v
Gebrigham Burnley v Linter: Cresterfield v Blackgoot.
Peterborough v Bristi! Povers Praston v Notis County,
Rotherham v Walsal. Stockpot v Crewe, Waltord v
Sournemouth v Wycombe v Stressbury York v Pyrmouth
Third division: Bernet v Carthodge United: Carlista v
Doncaster Chester v Brighton Definition v Hult, Eveter v
Mansheld: Hatlegood v Cotchester Hereford v Putham,
Limoth v Terrusy, Northampton v Wigan: Rochdale v
Seansea, Sourthoose v Legion Orent. Scansea, Sourtroipe v Leyton Orent.

VALDUHALL CONFERENCE: Bat v Slough Dover v Pushden and Diamonts: Famborough v Altracham, Gatesheed v Dromsgrove, Hayes v Hadnestond, Keltering v Northson, Kiddemister v Moreamber, Stalybridge v Meting: Stevenage v Macciesfield: Tallord v

SUNDAY BELL'S SCOTTISM LEAGUE: Second division: Livergalant



1 Man Utd

2 Liverpool 3 Arsessi

OVERSEAS ... Fratian LEAGUE Astanta 0 AC Man 2: Forestra 1 Rema 0: Internacionale 2 vertra 1: Nació 0 Juvertus 0: Pongra Capias 2: Papora 2: Sampdofa 2: Regigiana 3 Utanese 0, Vicenza 0 Lazio 2. STANSH LEAGUE Dith Woo F Resi Schedat i Bets 4 Ovedo 0 Bercelors 4 Sevia 0 Waledoid 2 Logores I; Athense Elban 2, Composites 2 Esternature 2 Terente 0: Resi Madrid 2 Zaragoza 0; Departing Courte 2 Recorg Sectionder 1; Herbares 1 Español 2. Feyerdard Philedam schada 3 Nymegen O.

PRENCH LEAGUE: Number 1 Life 0; Morroro 3 Bissla 1; Lyon 2 Le Horre 1, Lans 2 Austra 1, Nordy 1 Bordeaux 1; Cannes 1 Perces 0 Gurgeray 2 Seasbourg 1; Morrorotts 2 Nor 1. BELGIAN LEAGUE: Standard Libge 4
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COPA LIBERTADORES: Group onst. Cesto Porterio (Para) 2 Criente Paticulato (Bot) 1. Group tent. Recing Club (Arg) 2 Natural (Ent). Group tines: Minerian (Net) 1. Universidad Catolica (Chile) 0. Group tour: Germa (Br) 2 Ale WORLD CUP: Auten some Group too: Nepai 1 Macao 1 (in Muscat, Omer). **NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES**

Taunton 1 Sindpoin 1; Tormiglon 0 Treetain 2.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bury Town 4 Febschowe P and 7 0; Diss 0 Newmarket 1; Falumham 3 Woochridge 0. Great Yarmouth 1 Warboys 1; Hadeligh 4 March 3; Hatslead 0 Gorfeston 2, Lowestot 0 Harwich and Particeton 3. Softem 2 Sudbury Wanderen 2. Stoemarket 2 Clacton 1, Wasbach 4 Teiting 1, Whothern 0 Sudbury Town Res 0 JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington 4 Whitchuch of Andower 5 East Cowes 1; BAT. 0 Gosport 2: Bernerton Health Harf 4 Presential 1; Boumennouth 0 Homsey 0; Christichuch 2 Totton 1; Cowes Sports 0 Accostructures 0; Easting 3 Downton 1; Portsmouth RN 3 Hyde Sports 4; Wimborne town 5 Brockerhust 1

Biockenhurst 1

LIMLET SUBSECT COUNTY (EAGLE: First division: Eastbourse Town 4 Paginam 1: Hasham 6 Annah 2: Hassages 6 Mile Ost 0; Horstram 7 M C A 1 Lengney Sports 1: Portfeld 3 Oelencod 2: Pengres 2 Shoreham 2: Saltdeen 1 Three Bridges 1: Saltsey O'Whiteham! 1: Southwick 0 Burgess Mil 3: Work 0 Processman and Teleconius

WinstonLEAD WENT LEAGUE Fine division: Feverstram 1 Beckenham 0; Furness 0 Thanservead 1; Greenwich 1 Carterbury 1; Hyline 0 Folkestone Investe 1; Londwood 2 Contritian 1; Ramsgate 1 Creatham 2; Turbidge Wells 0 Winstable 2 HELLENIC LEAGUE Premier divisione Barbury 1 Endsleigh 2: Bossier 0 Wantage 2; Brackley 2 Abrigdon United 0; Burnham 1 Almondsbury 1; Diddon 3 Fairford 2; Highworth 3 Carterion 1; Shortwood 1 Kinibury 1; Tuffley 1 Swinder Supermarke 2.

Hobeach 2 Ford Sports 4, M. Blackstone 2
Wesingborough 1; Nawyout Pagnel 1
Eynestoury 2; Potton 0 Wootbon 0; Spalding
2 N. Spencer (S. and L. Coorly 3 Boure 1.
Cup: Semi-final: Desbarough 2 Stodold 1.
INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLANCE Barvett
3 Blosnich 0; Blaterall 0 Oldbury 0;
Boldmere St Mitchaels 1 Palsell Villa 2;
Chaselown 0 Hinchiey Athletic 2:
Holosoven Harriers 0 Rushall Olympic 0;
Ricoster 2 Perstore 1; Sundwell 6
Bridgmoth 1; Shifnel 2 Willerinell 0;
Stapentill 1 Krypersley 1; Straited 0 West
Middends Police 1

BIOSLESGE PSS.FANCE MODULAD

Stapenhill 1 Krypensley 1; Stelland 0 West Michands Police 1

BHOSLEIGH BISLEANCE ASOLUAD COMERNATION: Premiur division: Bisson Community College 1 David Loyd AFC 3; Biolenali Swills: 3 Highysis 2: Knowle 0 Handrathen Timbers 1; Richmond Swills: 4 Kenliworth 1; Shirley 1 Massey Ferguson 1; Studiey Bill 0 Coleshill 2; Wellesbourne 1 Alvechurch 0; West Midland Pile Service 0 Wordseler 2; BANKS'S. BREWERY LENGUE: Premiur division: Biomych 5 Crediey 0; Brierby Hill 3 Gorsel 2: Danaston 2 Wassell Wood 0; Elenguisal Ht. 2 Stoupport 8; Lye 1 Wolverhampton Casuals 2; Malwam 1 Hill Too 0; Sanford 0 Wednesded 0; Wasselded 0 Thidale 1.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LENGUE: Feet

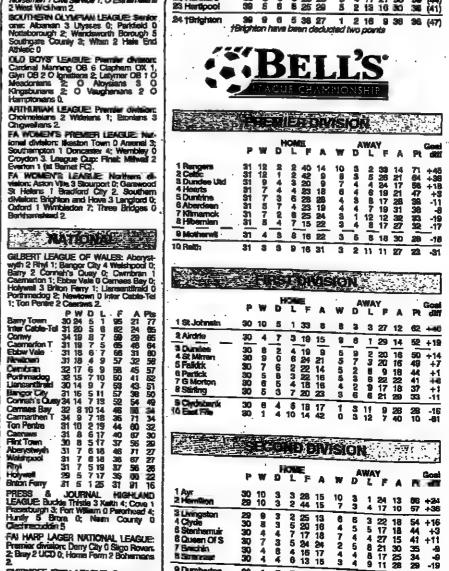
ESPHANN LEAGUE: Wender Stemmen 0 MSV 7. risturg 2: Fortune Disseldorf 9 VB 8. mpart 4: Secussia Dostmand 0 Borussia 9. mparty achiech 3: SV Hamburg 2 VIL Bochum E: 1950 Marsch 2 Hamsa Footook C: 90 Feetung 1 Bayer Levertusen 2; Caugne C Sanic Pauli 1. DUTCH LEAGUE Growingen 2 NAC Brade 2, Portura Stored 2 Speria Robertson 1; FSV Encholer 0 Herenwen 1; FC Vender 2 Rode JC Kerkade 1; Alvarar 0 Feysraard Patrenten 2, FC Tweete En-PORTINGIESE LEAGUE Sporing Leases 4 Votre Gutraries † Boerste 0 AC Porto 2 Sachesto 3 Brage 0: Cheres 4 Gil Vante 1: Ro Ave 4 Belanaries 1, Latia O Sathal C. Espaio 0 Lace 2: Fearres 1 March 10 C. Espaio 1 Stocken 0; Dunston Federation 0 Morphilis. 2: Dunston 3: Sheldon 1; Essington 3: Sectington 2: R T M. Naucassin 1 South Shelds 2: T tow Law 1 Muston 0; Weet Ruddand 0 Groot 9.

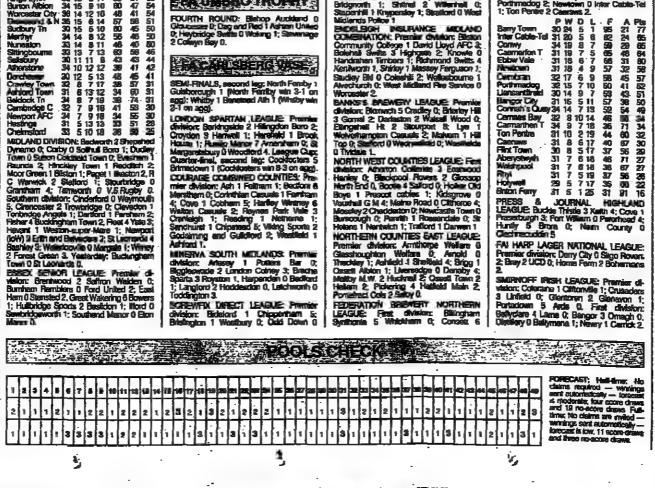
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SOUTH BIAST COUNTESS: First division: Asserta'S Southead O; Rutam 4 Cambridge 1; Lossetta 1 Cambridge 1; Lossetta 1 Cambridge 1; Lossetta 1 Cambridge 1; Lossetta 1 Cambridge 2 Castrigham 0. Washord 2 Leyton Onent 1. Second division: Barrat 1 Luton 1; Bournessnorth 0 Southsampton 0, Brestford 1; Baseling 1; Brighton 1 Coldrester 1; Bristol City 1 Bristol Rovent 1; Crystal Palacia 5 Serration 1; Wintbedon 2 Debord 0; Wycombe 0 Tozenham 0.

SOUTHEEM AMATEUR LEAGUE Sentor first division: Crouch End Vampless 0 O Actanisms 0; East Bernat OS 0 South Bark 2 Net West Bush 3 Polyschule 1; Norsemen 1 Cw6 Served 1; O Esthernelens 2 West Wichman 2. 36 9 E B 27 23 8 4 7 20 23 57 (47)
40 8 8 4 32 26 6 8 8 27 35 56 (59)
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FOOTBALL: THIRD WIN IN FIVE GAMES SINCE THE RETURN OF COPPELL HELPS TO SECURE FIFTH PLACE

McKenzie pounces to fuel Palace momentum

Oldham Athletic0 Crystal Palace1

By Peter Ball

CRYSTAL Palace continued their impressive run of results under Steve Coppell at Boundary Park yesterday. Leon McKenzie's second goal in successive games brought them their third win in five games under Coppell, taking them up into fifth position.

With games in hand on all the teams above them except Barnsley, and six of their remaining nine games at home, they are handily placed, with the second automatic promotion place in their sights. Even the auspices are in their favour — this was only their second double over Oldham Athletic; the first was in 1989, when they won promotion under Coppell.

"You can't discount it," Ray Houghton, the Palace midfield player, said afterwards. "Bolton are already up, but then the next 11 teams are probably still in with a chance."

Never mind the quality, feel the width. As the league table suggests. Bolton are the outstanding team by some distance in the Nationwide League first division this season, but, short of some serious strengthening at back and front, where McGinlay has already been found wanting as a striker at the top level, their only realistic aim will be survival. The rest are much of a muchness. It sounds silly, recent weeks. Manchester City have looked a better team than any of the teams above them, Bolton

"I can't see there's much difference between top and bottom," Neil Warnock, the Oldham manager, said after the game, and few could argue. Certainly on this form it is hard to see Palace as

Oldham looked what they

are, a team struggling against relegation, battling desperately, but short of composure and confidence, especially in front of goal, where they wasted enough chances to have won two or three matches.

Despite a wonderful start, with a goal after two minutes, Palace were not much better. only the confidence of their run of results giving them a veneer that Oldham lacked.

With Hopkin suspended, Houghton came back in for a quiet return after his three months out, but Rodger was dynamic as the holding man in midfield; and both front pairs proved a constant hand-ful for the Oldham defence, the 18-year-old McKenzie, the son of Clinton and nephew of Duke, proving as lethal in front of goal as they were in

the ring. How Warnock must have looked longingly at the Palace bench, with Shipperley and Freedman staying there until the hour, as McKenzie and Dyer were given first go. It worked inside two minutes, Dyer shrugging aside Hodg-son to cross for McKenzie to

put a free header past Kelly. That, though, was Palace's best moment. "We lost the initiative after a terrific start," Coppell said, and they were fortunate not to lose

With Nash flapping at crosses, Oldham had the chances to win, but Barlow, McCarthy and Serrant missed the best of them, and Palace survived, leaving Oldham anchored in the relegation zone, and with Bolton and Barnsley lying in wait. "Don't write us off, not in this league," Warnock warned.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC (3-8-2): G. Kelly — C. Flerring, I. Snodin, D. Hodgson (aub. 1 Dhygson, 46min) — D. Barcetord (aub. 8 Hache, 85), F. Grahm (aub. L. Ductury, 46), L. Richardson, P. Richard, C. Sermini — S. McCartry, S. Berlow, McCarthy, S Bartow, CRYSTAL PALACE (3-6-2): C Nash Linghan, A Roberta, M Edworthy

week, S. Rodger, R. Houghton, S. Rodger, R. Houghton, S. Rodger, R. Houghton, WcKerptle (sub: N. Shipperies, 2th).



Home pride sustains Rovers

Bristol Royers Preston North End

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BRISTOL Rovers were afforded a warm reception as they ran out on to the Memorial Ground yesterday. "C'mon Gas," the public address announcer bellowed, using the colloquial term of affection. "Come on Rovers, pride of the West Country. Let's do it!" And so they did.

While "pride of the West Country" was a shade strong, a touch of blinkered blue-andwhite optimism, Rovers were good value for their victory. It ended a sequence of four successive defeats and gives them a six-point cushion from the horrors lurking below in the Nationwide League second division basement.

Even Moyes contrived to head over what should have You saw a lot of passion out been the equaliser, with five

inviting cross. Before his gar-gantuan gaffe, Moyes had held together the Preston deyou'll see from us now on, win or lose," lan Holloway, the Rovers player-manager, said. We rolled our sleeves up and fence, with Wilcox, against the constant aerial threat of Beahad a right go. There were no dle and Alsop. boys out there, only men."

Rovers' twin strikeforce may lack refinement, but the pair make up for it in height, heart and wholesome work rate. When Beadle's about, the opposition usually knows it. Though too often favouring

his left foot, he continually bustles and bundles his way around the pitch, Alsop, plying his trade at Halesowen only six weeks ago, is a mirror image, all energy and enthusiasm. When the rough edges have been honed, he could prove quite a capture at

Cureton, an impish, will-o'the-wisp winger, complements perfectly. He antaponises his markers into errors by persistent running and has a nose for the half-

after the restart Rovers, having huffed and puffed unsuc-cessfully in a drab first half, he made the breakthrough.

Beadle beavered away on the left before lashing over a swirling cross that neither Moyes, Wilcox nor O'Hanlon, the Preston goalkeeper, were able to deal with. So Cureton nipped in to toe-poke home his tenth goal of the season.

Preston responded belated-ly. One of their less orthodox efforts was O'Hanlon's windassisted clearance that bounced once before nestling on a stanchion on top of the net. Rovers survived and, for a day at least, could claim to be the pride of the West Country. BRISTOL ROVERS (4.4.2): A Collett — O Prichard, T White. A Tillian, M Lookwood — J Cuselon , I Holloway, J Sidmer, T Ramsus — J Neop. P Beedle. PRESTON NORTH EMD (4.4.2): K O'Henlon — K Gaga (sub: K Kilbare, 78min), D Moyes, R Wicox, R Kido — L Carlwright, S Gregan, I Bryson, L Ashordt — K Nogan, D Resves

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Cambridge try wide-ranging possibilities

David Miller believes a change of style may yet bear fruit at the Abbey Stadium

times have changed at the Abbey Stadium. Nowadays you can often see the ball. In the not-so-distant promotion years under John Beck, it was often out of sight above the roofline for those at the back of the grandstand.

ه ي المن العابد

The present Cambridge United team, inherited midseason by Roy McFarland, tries to play football and succeeded to some degree in the 2-2 draw with Chester City on Saturday.

Ron Atkinson, the Coventry City director of football. was present to watch Micah Hyde, a midfield player with a touch of David Rocastle about him but needing a touch of Paul lace to give him bite.

Thirty seconds from time it seemed that Hyde had made the winner, though by then Atkinson had left to be ahead of the crowd - all 3.044 of them. Frustratingly for Hyde, his perfect cross and an equally perfect header by Kyd on the near post were judged offside by the linesman. So Chester escaped with the draw that keeps them one place and one point ahead of Cambridge in the battle to maintain play-off positions in the Nationwide League third division.

I was level with the linesman and considered his decision a lottery handout in favour of Chester. To halmee this misfortune for Cambridge, it must be said that the same linesman's flag had remained static a Wanless beat, though not legally, Chester's offside trap for Barnwell to put his side two up after only seven minutes. Wanless had looked a good three yards clear when Tay-

for played the ball through. Two months ago Cambridge were lying second in the table, but then came a slump of five defeats in seven matches. A side previously promotion-bound cannot be said to have consolidated under McFar-

land, yet the policy of regularly getting the ball out to the flanks may yet pay dividends over the reining eight matches.

Someone unkindly remarked that Cambridge's quartered shirt design makes them look like automobile crash-test dummies but in the first few minutes it was Chester who were suffering from impact.

In the fifth minute Ashby's acute drive from the left of the goalmouth into a crowd of players struck the unsighted Sinclair, the Chester goalkeeper, and flew into the net. Then came Wanless's moment of fortune, his initial shot rebounding to Barnwell, who scored easily.

Chester's response was swift. Within two minutes Aiston crossed from the left. Flitcroft, from the other flank, headed back into the goalmouth and the veteran, Rimmer, scored from close

seven-year-old home supporter was dismayed when queueing for his ten at half-time to learn that Rimmer has scored 141 goals for Chester, until it was explained that they had not all been this

Chester controlled much of the rest of the first half and it was due reward when Milner won a duel with Joseph on the edge of the penalty area and then lobbed over the advancing Barrett to level the scores.

Taylor struck a post straight from the kick-off in the second half and, 15 minutes from time, Flitcroft, with only Barrett to beat, squandered his chance to give Chester the winner.

in

CAMBROGE UNITED (1-4-2): Blaining
— P Raynor, J Cracktock, M Joseph, C
Yowkish — (Ashby, P Wantess, M Hyde,
A Hayes — J Taylor, J Bernwell (sub: M
Kyd, 78min).
CHESTER CITY (4-4-2): R Sincler — R
Denoson, S Wreden, J Abstord, Liendre,
— D Pittsoft, S Reid, C Press, S Aston
— S Rimmer (sub: J Jones, 69), A
Million.

leaders maintain the pace

Norwich City... Bolton Wanderers......1

BY NICK SECTEPANIK

IT MUST be depressing for Nationwide League first division clubs to see Bolton Wanderers looming on their fixture list, and know that they can forget about those three vital points for another week.

It was the turn of Norwich City on Saturday, who needed a victory after slipping out of the play-off places the previ-ous weekend. Surprisingly. there was optimism beforehand about the prospect of regaining lost ground at the expense of the runaway league leaders. There was even a bright opening, some near inter-passing and one superbly incisive move as Fleck's pass gave Sutch a chance that

he drove past the near post. Bolton, though, were not to he denied for long. In the 24th minute Nathan Blake muscled his way on to a pass down the left, held the ball up and put it into the path of Scott Sellars who, in turn, put it into the far corner of Dunn's goal.

grand grands

Although Norwich came close through O'Neill and Milligan in the second half. there was never much doubt from then on that Bolton would achieve their 24th victory of the campaign, their ninth away from home.

Yes, it's a nice feeling," Keith Branagan, the Bolton goalkeeper, said. "I've got a good side in front of me; we are strong and can score goals from anywhere."

They were very disciplined. and made it difficult." Mike Walker, the Norwich manager, said. "We deserved something out of it, and, against a lesser team than Bolton, we would have got something." It was, in all probability, the 24th time that a manager has said that this season.

NORWICH CITY (3-4-1-2): B Gunn — C Bradshaw, M Jackson, R Newman — N Adams, I Crook (sub. D Broughton, 87mn), M Miligan, D Sufe, — K O Meil (sub: A Forbes, 72) — R Fleck, D Eadle. FORDER, (2) — H HECR, U ERGRE.

BOLTON WANDENERS (4-4-2): K Branagar — S McAnespie, C Fardough; G Raggar, J Philips — J Policia, P Francisca.

A Thompson, S Sallars — J McGinlay, N

the special property of the state of the sta

Runaway Sympathy running out for tarnished hero of Ibrox

there today and that's what

Paul Gascoigne is no-body's pin-up any more. in illustrating a report on the fact that four out of ten women in the country are celibate, a newspaper even used a picture of the Rangers player, taken during his recent outing in Soho, to epitomise the shortcomings of the British male. It is not even clear if his club still fancy him.

The weekend's statement may have been read out by Mel Stein, his lawyer, but, in its rambling contrition, it was animated by the authentic voice of Gascoigne himself. It is one we had already heard far too often. He was responding to unflattering coverage of the excursion in Soho, during which he is alleged to have slapped a woman, and a subsequent trip to New York.

Repentance and defiance, as they so frequently have been, were uncomfortable companions in Gascoigne's account. Apologies for any offence that may have been caused were fired off to club and supporters, as well as to that lady whom he denies assaulting.

After all these years, he seems still to have no idea how peculiar it sounds when, simultaneously, he both seeks forgiveness and pleads innocence. There was also an attempt to make a grab for the public's heartstrings when Gascoigne professed that "I live and breathe football and I live and breathe Rangers."
It is a symptom of a dwin-

KEVIN McCARRA



commentary

dling career that the England player now meets with jaded exasperation. In the wake of suggestions that Rangers are about to dispense with his troublesome services, Gascoigne's statement asserted that he would, in fact, remain until the end of his contract in

1998. Perhaps he will. Gascoigne has been valuable to Rangers and, before his ankle injury in January, he had scored 17 goals this season. The Ibrox side look arid without him, as they did on Saturday in losing 2-1 to Kilmarnock at home.

Before Gascoigne can go, Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, needs to know who will replace him. If the club is to recoup most of the £4.3 million paid to Lazio in 1995. they must rehabilitate his reputation by getting him fit and restoring him to action.

Even then. Gascoigne. who will be 30 in May, is under no obligation to acquiesce in such schemes. Might he not continue to insist on seeing out his contract, ensuring that he is a free agent next year? Gascoigne's statement was

That Preston North End -

hovering in mid-table, going

nowhere - appeared patently

disinterested, at least until

they went behind, also helped

the Rovers cause. When the

Preston players' pay packets

are made up, Gary Peter, the

manager, should perhaps con-

sider a disciplinary deduction.

field, and Moyes and Wilcox.

at the back, Preston were poor.

It was as if they were already

contemplating the summer

break, safe in the knowledge

that the promotion or relega-

tion issues do not concern

minutes left, from Ashcroft's

Apart from Gregan, in mid-

issued to Sunday newspapers because Smith had wished to protect the Kilmarnock fixture from any furore. As it was, his depleted side were lethargic and looked as if a joit of controversy might have been helpful. They could have equalised in the last minute, when they were refused a blatant penalty, but Kilmar-nock merited victory. The outcome was exhilarating for the visitors, who reduced the risk of relegation, but it left Rangers with only a flesh wound, since Celtic managed no more than a 2-2 draw at Dunfermline Athletic. The Ibrox club. with a seven-point lead, can

still expect the championship. Kilmarnock, though, extended a welcome invitation to look beyond this tawdry season. On their left wing, Alex Burke, 19, showed once again that he can combine flamboyance and technique, as he did with one drag-back that de-ceived Alex Cleland and led Craig Moore to barge him to

the ground. As he lay there, Alan McLaren petulantly threw the ball at him. While it was ugly behaviour, the irritability meant that Burke was also being tossed a compliment. The teenager's mere presence was a reminder that, before long, time will begin to strip even Gascoigne of his fame.

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Heybridge's hopes end swiftly

Heybridge Swifts... Woking

By WALTER GAMMIE

HEYBRIDGE Swifts, the Icis League club, stage-managed the day that drew 2,477, the biggest crowd seen at their Scraley Road ground, with considerable style. Unfortu-nately, the result failed to match the previous round, when they had beaten Kidderminster Harriers 3-0, as Woking, the FA Umbro Trophy winners in 1994 and 1995. reached the semi-finals.

Woking, of the Vauxhall

Conference, secured their vic- head, to gain a clear edge in tory in the 67th minute when Heybridge failed to clear a low corner by Clive Walker. Kingsley Banks, the goalkeeper, could not gather the ball cleanly and Andy Ellis turned

On the two occasions that Heybridge had a clear sight of goal, Wye cleared Caldon's effort off the line and Gregory blocked a shot by Caldon. Kidderminster had a

harrowing afternoon at Bower Fold. losing 4-1 to Stalybridge Celtic, while Macclesfield Town won their seventh successive league match, 3-0 at home to Gates-

the race for the conference. HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS (4-4-2) K Banks — M Crantield M Veen, k Ban; A Victiers — A Ansah F. Game M Springer, M Jones — G Caldon, 5 Harding Isub W Addock, 50mm. WORING (3-4-1-2) J Gregory — K Brown, T Howard S Foster — S Mye S Thompson, A Elis. A Teytor — S Steele — D Hay, C

☐ Paul Pitman's last-minute goal ensured Whithy Town a I-I draw over Banstead Athletic, a 2-1 aggregate victory and a passage to Wembley on May 10 for the FA Carlsberg Vase final. They will meet North Ferriby United, who drew 1-1 at home to Guisborough Town, to go with a 2-0 first leg away victory.

Brilliance

at sevens

makes Fiii

wonder

of world

IN HONG KONG

AFTER years of being recognised as the small-cial masters of the game.

Fiji confirmed to a packed Hong Kong Stadium yes-terday that they are the

outstanding sevens team with a 24-21 victory over

South Africa in the World

Cup final.
Their triumph was

marked with tears of joy,

prayers on bended knee

and fanfares around the

Emerging Italy hit champions for six

FROM DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT IN GRENOBLE

TWO years ago italy made a formal request that they should join the five nations' championship, making it into six, but were turned down. Last year they repeated the request, but were told by the five nations' committee that, perhaps, in two years the door would open for them. Here in the Lesdiguières stadium on Saturday, they swung the door back so violently on its hinges that each of the established five nations juddered at the

There are all sorts of explanations for Italy achieving the victory that not one of the home unions could manage this season, most of them associated with the fact that. eight days earlier, France had won the grand slam for

How swiftly the rooster has become the feather duster, the French cockerel gaining only a modicum of respectability with two late tries that could make no difference to an

historic result. As the accompanying table shows, Italy's results this season place them higher than Ireland and Scotland in an unofficial six nations' tournament (they also have the effect of making England champions). Bear in mind, too, that only one of those games was played at home, though, if there is one foreign city heavily flavoured by an immigrant Italian population, it is Grenoble, nestling in the foothills of Yet that is not the whole

story. Italy indicated clearly during the 1991 World Cup their level of improvement since the inaugural competition four years earlier. Since then they have brought the best from Australia (1994), beaten Ireland at home (1995) and defeated what was, in effect, the test and Alphal last even if it bore an A label, last year.
"We understand that we

must prove ourselves to show that we deserve to play against the British sides," Giancarlo Dondi, the president of the Italian Rugby Federation. said. "We don't want to lower the standard of play in the five nations', nor do we want to appear arrogant, but, if we were to become part of the five nations'. Italian rugby would go up a step and that might help the whole competition."

Victory over France offers the most convincing possible argument. There will be those who say that, capped international or not, this was far from the France first XV, with players from Brive, Bourgoin and Beziers away for club competitions. Yet eight of the starting XV appeared in the grand slam victory over Scot-land a week earlier and not one of the remaining seven

The point at issue for the home unions is to balance the popularity and traditions of what they have with the good that they can do Italian rugby. British administrators may point to the crowd on Saturday - around 10,000 - and complain that the Italians will not be a commercial success,



Guidi, the replacement scrum half, feeds the Italy back line during a defeat of France that challenged the balance of power in European rugby

but this is a chicken-and-egg argument. Italy cannot be a draw until rugby crowds are given the chance to appreciate their qualities. The Irish received a hint in January and there were four tries in which to revel here.

The first, in a frantic open-ing period, was by Fran-cescato and gave the Italians a lead that they conceded only during a brief period of the first half. They prospered, moreover, despite struggling initially in initially in the scrums and suffering in the lineout, where only Croci offered a consistent challenge. Their success was founded firmly on a quite outstanding defence, in which all three back-row forwards excelled, while Gardner, the Australian, also produced his most effective attacking game for his adopted country.

Several France players looked as though they expected to win as of right, particularly when a penalty try put them on the scorebuard and when Bondouv scored the first of his two tries with a crisp break that carried France to

20-20 shortly after the interval. Italy, though, never ceased to prey on French mistakes, to seize turn-overs and to move the ball adventurously wide. The try that convinced them that they could win owed its being to just that mood. It started with Vaccari fumbling at a loose ball ten metres from his own line, yet he whipped round, set off up the touchline and found his locks and support. Massimo Cuttitta chimed in, then Troncon was off and the balding Crochi cruised up to finish a wonderREVISED TABLE

Dominguez, who missed only the first of his nine kicks at goal, embellished the lead with penalty goals and it stretched to 30 points when Pertile ran out of deep defence. Though the move appeared to founder ten metres short. Sadourny's relieving kick fell to Gardner, whose rampant charge took him through three defenders before an overhead pass sent Vaccari skudding to the posts. At that stage only six minutes remained and, though Sadourny, then Bondauy, found the tryline, time had run out for France. Italy appreciate the need to

build from below. In domestic terms, success at the Fira youth tournament would be of great value, though not as great as the improvement of their image that success over France engenders.

If others are not certain about us, let them come and see for themselves." Dondi said. His union has an agreement with Tele Monte Carlo that, though it does not bring a fee, ensures that everyone can watch Italy internationals without any pay-per-view in-volvement. We respect everyone else's views about us and we seek to be part of the five Should there be any that still cavil at Italy's prospects, all their proponents now need to do is whisper "Grenoble" in

difficult for any northernhemisphere sides to train for this tournament

Mitchell in no mood for excuses as Sale slip

BY PETER BILLS

THE inquest behind drawn shutters at the back of the Sale team coach had begun even in the car park at the Memorial Ground. Ensconced in privacy. John Mitchell, the Sale director of rugby, sat grimfaced at his side's profligacy in donating this Courage Clubs Championship first division victory to a struggling Bristol. Never mind Sale's Pilkington Cup, semi-final

against Harlequins this Saturday, and the chance of a first appearance in the final sides directed by New Zealanders, as they are, do not countenance excuses for such lost opportunities as this.

Sale were lacking seven first-team regulars, but Jim Mallinder, their captain, was still moved to call it "one of our worst performances of the

True, but only in part. For Sale had established a 24-13 lead by the 52nd minute even allowing for their careless finishing, which squandered more scoring opportunities. Even so, they were collectively a yard or two faster to the ball and were initially hungrier, rendering Bristol pedestrian by comparison.

Just 30 minutes and three converted tries later, Bristol had pilfered victory with the somewhat embarrassed expression of youngsters scrumping apples from an

Sale's collapse, from which David Tiueti, the Bristol wing, was the main beneficiary with two tries, began at a 57thminute scrum. A total lack of concentration by the Sale forwards was the only explanation for a scrummage which retreated faster than a pressurised politician. Bristol scored and were subsequently unrecognisable in achieving only their second league win in 11 games.

SCORERS: Brietot: Tries: Tueti (2), Eagle, Lewsey. Conversions: Burks (4) Panaity goals: Burks (2). Sale: Tries: Yeles, Mallinder. Conversion: Verbickas Panaity

SRISTOL: J Lewsey: D Trues, F Waters, Maggs, B Breeze: P Burke, R Jones; Herkuns, B McConnell, K Fulmen, M Corry, Adams, C Eggle, R Collins, E Rollet Burk replaced by P Hult (78mm).

SALE: J Mallinder; D Ress, D Wright, C Yates, S Verbickes; J Basendell, J O'Reilly P Winstanley, S Diamond, M Driver, E Erskine, D Baldwin, J Fowler, D O'Grady, Mitchell, Erskine replaced by N Asirurs

ee: 5 Piercy (Yorkshire)

Logan earns his stripes for Wasps

BY BRYAN STILES

IF THERE is one thing that Kenny Logan admires about it is the way that they support each other in defence or attack - particularly attack. It was a commitment that helped him to five tries in this match, a record haul for the Courage Clubs Championship first division.

It was only his second eague game for the club; he had hardly got his feet under the table at Sudbury and here he was hogging the limelight. It was not his fault that he was faced by one of the weakest teams in the first division in

South Wales Police..... 30

BY GERALD DAVIES

LEIGH DAVIES has endured

a season in the doldrums. Last

year, while with Neath, he

burst on the international

scene so successfully in the

centre for Wales that his name

was soon referred to in terms

of potential inclusion in the

British Isles contingent. Certainly at that time he looked to

be so good a midfield player

that he was a front runner for

Regrettably, all this faded

In his first season with Car-

diff, not only has he failed to

enhance his standing, but also he has fallen back. Voted the

most promising player in Wales last year, he has failed

However, on Saturday, in

this quarter-final of the Swalec

Cup, for the first time this

season, he amply demonstrat-

ed that he has not lost those

gifts which made him seem

born of the classic mould -

swift and delicate passes, able

also to show a clean pair of

heels on the arc of an outside

break or a short, straight

burst. Such penetration result-

To succeed in this way

means that he had to vary his

alignment to create the space.

This season this has not

happened. Either the failing

has not been brought to his attention or he has been

unable or unwilling to adjust

ed in four tries for him.

to fulfil that promise.

a part in South Africa.

Orrell, who are bottom of the

Logan's previous highest try tally in a club match had been three, and that was two years ago for Stirling County, the club that he left several weeks to join Wasps, who will that their reported £120,000 outlay over three years will be well spent if he can replicate this sort of form.

Logan, 23, a farmer's son who now owns a 300-scre arable farm in Scotland to which he will retire when he leaves the game, travels down from Stirling each midweek for training and match preparation. He will do that for the remainder of the season, moving into a London flat before next term. His presence lends a sharper edge to the Wasps back division as they strive to

Davies glad to return

to centre of attention

Whether such refinements

will continue will depend on the requirements of Alex Ev-

ans, the former Cardiff coach.

After a year back in Australia

as a consultant to the national

team, he is due to return to

Davies, along with Gareth

Jones, his partner, helped to

make this an entertaining

match. They are an exciting

pair in the centre and on this

form should return soon for

international consideration.

On Saturday they were given

the room to manoeuvre by the

promptings of Jonathan Da-

Not that the action was all

one-way, nor that the score

truly reflects the difference.

Indeed, South Wales Police

provided many threatening.

continuous attacks of such

quality that the clubs in

Wales's first division might

Leigh Davies: high scorer

Cardiff next season.

season.

during what is, for him, a lost learn a good deal. With Rees

retain their position at the

head of the league.
In the first half Wasps seemed unstoppable and Orrell's efforts to keep them out sent a quiver of embarrassment down the spine, so inept was their defence at

Full results and league tablesPage 34

Wasps captain, must have thought that he was performing in the World Cup sevens in Hong Kong — a tournament from which he withdrew through illness - so frisky were his charges before the

providing the lineout posses-sion, the fine support work

and timing of the players

passes ensured that they gave

Justin Price gave the Police

a well-justified lead after eight minutes, but Cardiff respond-

ed in wonderful fashion with

Leigh Davies benefiting three

times and Jones once with

tries to give their side a 26-3

lead. Darryl Thomas scored

for the Police just before

With Ford extending the

lead after the interval, Cardiff

looked to have subdued the

Police, but tries by Steven Rees

and Pritchard brought them

back to within two goals and

A spate of tries by Ford, Leigh

Davies, Bennett and Walker,

however, ensured that Cardiff

went beyond the Police despite

With two of the quarter

finals still to be played, Cardiff

will not know who their oppo-

nents will be until after next

SCORERS: Cardill: Tries; I, Davies (4), Ford (2), G Jones, Bergeet, Wales Police; They Thomas, Rose, Prachard James, Codd, Convention: Price. Penalty

SOUTH WALES POLICE: P Sparous; I Thornes, J Apose, S Prilchard, R James, a Price, G Jones; M Randell, M Poote, G Bundock, R Andrews, N Jones, S Rees, S

tries by James and Codd.

raised hopes of a close finale.

half-time.

Cardiff a difficult time.

interval His players, though, got bored with the one-way flow and refused to move out of second gear for much of the second half. At least the Orrell response brought them more territorial advantage after the interval, even if they drew a scoring blank.

ous statements in the second half came when Dallaglio shouted at his players: "We are throwing it away." The fact that Wasps were winning 55-5 was immaterial to him. The championship could come down to points difference and he wanted as many points on the board as he could get. This victory stretched Wasps' lead at the head of the table to four points, with Leicester, their nearest rivals, having played

one game fewer. Dallaglio was at the heart

produced by Wasps, including some of Logan's tries, the firs of which came in the fifth minute. Logan's most speciac ular try came in the 28th minute, when Rees threw him an American football-style pass almost half the width of the pitch.

SCORERS: Waspe: Tries: Logan (5), Roser (2), Greenstook Sotherier Convin-sions: Rees (8), King, Panally goal: Rees Ornell Try: Hastop

WASPS: G Rees; S Rosser, N Gre WASPE: G Rees: S Rosse, N Greenstock, R Herderson, K Logan; A King, A Gomansel; D Moldey, S Micchell, W Green, L Dallagto, M G menvood, A Read, M White, P Somente Rees replaced by J Ultion (63); Reed replaced by R Carm (63); Reed replaced by R Krays (73); M Wood temporary replacement for Gomersell (60-82)

(6D-62)
ORRELL: S Talbemer: J Naylor, D Lyon, L Turgamala, N Hestop: M McCarthy, S Coole, M Worsley, N Hitchin. S Tunter, P Anglesson, P Ress. C Cusani, R Higgs, A Bennett. Hitchin reptaced by A Mohat (57): Talbemer reptaced by W Munroe (74); Ress reptaced by C Brieny (74).

Thanet conjure one final effort

Thanet Wanderers 18 Sudbury. (aet, 13-13 at 80min)

BY BARRY TROWDRIDGE

HE MAY not have run quite so far and there was no capacity Twickenham crowd to cheer his every stride. For folk down Thanet way, however, Peter Macaulay's try, in the final minute of extra time at Henley on Saturday, will be every bit as memorable as the glorious run by Andy Han-cock that drew the 1965 Calcutta Cup match. It earned his side an outing against Don-caster on the hallowed turf of southwest London on May 3.

Traditionally, one-match semi-finals stagnate, but this game, which was to determine one of the finalists in the inaugural Rugby Football Union Intermediate Cup, had everything. Sudbury shrugged off the lethargy that clouded their quarter-final with Broadstreet and Thanet showed again that they do not concede defeat until well past the third chorus of Zulu Warrior. Total commitment would be an understatement.

As in their matches against Guildford and Godalming and Cinderford, Thanet had plenty still to do as the second half unfolded, yet kept their nerve, battled back by doing the basics correctly, then conjured a try to take the game

Approaching the hour, however. Thanet should have been history. With Howlet and Pinnegar dominating the lineout and Williams, on the flank, crunching anything that moved, Sudbury led 13-3 and only outstanding defence

was keeping Thanet in the tie. Like the spring weather, though, the theme unaccountably changed, and suddenly every Thanet player wanted the ball in his hands. To good effect, too; for a strong run by Coyne soon sent Stokes over wide on the right, and it was a high tackle on the same player that incurred the penalty from which Smith burrowed over to buy them more time.

For a first, the final should be something worthy of Twickenham. Having won all their games in London II South and North II, respectively, this season. Thanet and Doncaster could not be better matched, and Doncaster, too, pulled themselves out of the fire with a try after 79 minutes and had to endure extra time before they got the better of Middlesbrough after an 8-8 draw, only because they won by a greater margin in the quarter-finals.

quarter-finals.

SCORERS: Theret Wanderers: Tries:
Sciese, Smelt, Mocauley, Penalty goat:
Redmond Sudbury: Tries: Surner, Evera.
Penalty goat: J Cowling.
THANET WANDERERS: G Redmond; E
Stokes, M Coyne, P Macauley, M Meyer; G
Harper, J Wentr, R Guid, C Smith, T Carter,
A Microsal, P Hughes, G Pringley, C Marson,
D Langley, Microsal replaced by J Hains
(78min): Hrughey replaced by J Aslent 190;
Redmond replaced by Mend (92)
SUDBURY: D Sestiend; G Evans, J
Cowling, R Surner, A Tibbles: M Lury, S
Herries; F Barles, S Excell, R Ward, D
Williams, J Howlet, S Pinnegur, B Buil, G
Atherion Juny replaced by D Minter (17):
Word: stoplaced: by Int Burman (76); J
Cowling retained by C Cowling Coloning retained (92)
Retereor: S Susage (Manuscistims).

Excitement lacking as Harlequins canter in

Harlequins..

West Hartiepool

BY BARNEY SPENDER

FOR Harlequins it was like another day at the office. A sunny afternoon, seven tries, including a second half hat-trick for Nick Walshe, two points in the kitty and, bearing in mind the Pilkington Cup semi-final against Sale on Saturday, no new injuries.

All very satisfactory; and yet, in spite of the 48-10 scoreline, this was also one of the blander days at the Stoop, probably for the fact that the outcome was never in doubt from the moment when Harlequins opted to run a penalty in front of the West Hartlepool posts. The ball was moved right and O'Leary powered through for the try which, with Lacroix's conversion, gave them a 17-0 lead. The fact that it came after just seven minutes meant that the 4,600 crowd was consigned to sitting through a largely meaningless

last 73 minutes. The win brought Hariequins level on points with Bath, but Andy Keast, the coach, mindful of the vital importance of qualifying for Europe next season, was still wearing a frown rather than his usual Cheshire-cat grin after the game.

"It's about concentration and focus," he said. "In the first 15 minutes it was there, but then we lost it. We've got to learn to be able to control our mental strength." The implication is that, in the final shakeout with Wasps, Leicester and Bath, that failing may count badly.

In patches, Harlequins did play some fine rugby. Cabannes roamed effectively and Lacroix showed some of his trademark sleight of hand to marshal a midfield which featured an impressive performance from Jason Keyter, who got the first of the tries. SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: Walshe (3).

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: Walshe (3).
Concoran (2). Keyter, C'Léary Conversions: Lacrox (5) Perselly goal: Lacrox, West Hartlepool: Tries: Earnshew, S. John HARLEQUINS: P. Chalinor; D. C'Leary, J. Keyter, W. Carling, M. Concoran: T. Lacrox, N. Walshe: I. Bánézach, T. Billupa, J. Leonard, R. Jenidras, Gareth Llewellyn, L. Gross, M. Watson, L. Cabarnes. Leonard replaced by A. Mullims (4) (mm): Corcoran replaced by Harries (77).

WEST HARTLEPOOL: M Silva; G Truelove, L Botham, J Connolly, S John: C John, M Roderick; D Barres, A Paacock, W de Jonge, M Emmerson, C Murphy, K Moseley, R Esmehais, I Morgan, De Jonge by P Whitelook (54); Botham replaced by J Stabler (60); Roderick replaced by T Harvey (60).

stadium. Promises of nat-ional holidays to comrate the occasion came Sooding through from jubliant Fijian lead-eis and Waisale Serevi, the captain, was described on television and radio as the esuminy's new god.

Fiji took the coveted title from England, the win-ners of the inaugural world sevens in Scotland four years ago, but this time round England isolited off the pace and decidedly second-rate as southern-hemisphere sides dominated the competition. Not one team from the northern hemisphere made it into the England's dreams of reent ackil

taining the title were shattered in the quarter-finals yesterday when .Western Samoa ran rings round them. England looked tired and unimaginative as they struggled to get just one try in the 21-5

It was a disappointing outing for British sides, but, after the five nations' championship and the most packed club season in rugby history, most had severely depleted teams.
"It has been extremely



The jubilant Serevi is carried from the pitch

man, the England man-ager, said. Indeed, it was Fiji who dominated the tournament from day one. They notched up cricket scores against the smaller teams, dispensing with Western Samoa in their semi-final before beating South Africa in style.

South Africa reached the final, beating New Zealand at the last-four stage. by playing disciplined. organised rugby more reminiscent of their World Cup-winnning XV. However, once faced with the athletic and creative Fijians in the final, they struggled to exert control. Despite taking an early lead when Venter went over twice, it was Fiji who dominated for two thirds of the game.

 $c_i \geq 2 \sqrt{3} \log$

They replied through the talented Vunibaka, an unemployed labourer who was outstanding in the tournament, to trail by seven points at the break Fiji moved to 14-14 in the

second half with an Erenavula try, before Koroi twice claimed tries to give Fiji an ultimately unassailable lead Stephen Brink,

speedy South Africa wing. scored minutes from time to make it 24-21, but Fiji were already celebrating their victory."

With Hong Kong teeter-ing on the edge of its handover to China and the sevens' future in jeopardy, it seemed right that the Fiji team led by Serevi, the greatest exponent in the history of the sevens game. should be crowned world champions.

SCORERS: Fill: Tries: Koro! (2).
Fenevula, Vunbalo: Conversions:
Serev! (2) South Africa: Tries: Venter
(2), Brink Conversions: Brink (3).
FUI: J Tulicabe A Natuyaga, L Koro.
W Serev., M Ban. L Erenavula. M
Vunbalo: Koro! replaced by T
Natiological. Vuntosea Nafiselskele, SOUTH AFRICA: A Venter, P Rossouw, B Sfunstad, A Snymen, J van der Westellich S Brink, J Oliver Olivier replaced by B Paulse, Snymer raplaced by G Power

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IRMOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORT

12 100 Kg/100

John Hopkins tries to keep up with a sporting celebrity on a whirlwind weekend

Offiah still intent on cracking two codes

ust before lpm on Friday a black Mercedes drove out through the gates of Buckingham Palace. It was one of those limousines with darkened windows favoured by people who pretend that they do not want to be seen but do really. When it stopped and the windows were wound down, you could see that Martin Offiah was in the front passenger seat, holding up his MBE insignia — awarded for services to rugby — that the Prince of Wales had just presented to him. In the back seat were his mother, Regina, in a multicoloured dress and with a smile as wide as Africa, and Zara, his girlfriend.

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Patence

togram lead.

It was a glorious spring day, and by now Offiah's odyssey was well under way. He had woken just after seven o'clock and had been driven to the Palace for the in-

vestiture. In the next 27 hours Offiah would play a game of rugby league for London Broncos and a rug-by union match for slightly out Bedford. This hectic, pub-

of place licity-driven stunt in both' would come to a rousing conclusion

with him making a try-scoring dash for the line to seal Bedford's 32-11 victory over Rotherham. It was symbolic, however, that Offiah, who had left the Palace on Friday in a chauffeur-driven Mercedes, had to cadge a lift from Rotherham rugby ground on Saturday in a Citroen Xantia, driven by a team-mate.

Who is this tall, slim and rather shy man, uneasy with the media, not yet a part of the Bedford rugby union team for whom he recently signed, and not fully integrated into the London Brancos, the rugby league team in which Richard Branson's Virgin Group recently bought a much-heralded interest? Offiah is a man seems slightly out of place in both. He is of both union and league, yet truly of neither.

Sometimes the publicity that he generates works to his cost. His much-vaunted helicopter ride from Battersea to Manchester before the Super League game against Warrington Wolves will not be repeated. "I've not been up in a helicopter before and I shan't be going up in a helicopter

night. He was asked how he was getting to the game for

the next day? "In a car, mate." There is a roundabout only a decent punt from Warrington's ground. It is named after Brian Bevan, rugby league's highest try-scorer, and dominated by a statue of Bevan and three rugby posts. The floodlights were switched on and they cast an eerie shadow over the statue as Offiah, modern rugby league's most devastating try-scorer, made his way to the ground. However, he began the game in the shadows out on the left wing, the Broncos won easily, 38-18, Offiah touched the ball only muddied his white shorts.

On Saturday afternoon

Offiah,

Yet he

seems

inconspicuous in a black training suit, sat on the bench. Not having trained with Bedford for two weeks, he had no aspirations to play and it was only when Marcus Cooke was injured that Offiah took the field. "Martin has not been as

effective for us as we would like and I am sure he would like," Geoff Cooke, the director of rugby at Bedford, said. "What has he scored - ten

or II tries for us in eight or nine games? Union is so much more crowded than league. Judging a run for a ball from a ruck in union is much less predictable. Martin is his own man. He is not really a team man. He certainly is not your

usual rugby type."
Is Offiah an ageing star doing the rounds before anno domini takes all the speed from his legs? Perhaps; but he still has a genuine appeal. He might not have made much impression at Warrington on Friday, but, the moment that ham, one small boy said to another: "There he is. There's Martin Offiah."

Cooke said: "There is a real buzz around the ground the moment Martin gets the ball. This is sometimes followed a moment or two later by a groan when he is tackled." Perhaps Offiah is worth the E400,000 that his manager said he earns from his crosscodes contracts.



Offiah caps his weekend in style by bursting clear to score for Bedford with only his third touch of the ball. Photograph: Marc Aspland







After popping in at the Palace for his gong, Offiah prepares to be airlifted to Warrington, where he helps London Broncos to a 38-18 victory

Offiah is not an easy communicator. After the game on Friday he sat in a room beneath the main stand, looking ili at ease. He wore a royal blue denim shirt, white trousers. brown slip-on shoes. Cradled in his hand was his comforter, a mobile phone, that symbol of the 90s without

which no celebrity is complete. His eyes darted around, as if searching for a friendly face.

He was asked to explain the difference between union and league. He gulped and forced tion. Anyone who has watched the two games knows the difference. League is a lot more physically demanding game, union is a lot more complex. You don't get so many running chances in the backs in union. Today our

forwards played pretty well.

final to celebrate the competi-

tion's centenary after the clas-

sic last year. "Having been to

Wembley and tasted success,

I've played in union when I don't think I've touched the ball once.

"In union the players are much fitter than they used to be. They close things down, work a lot harder. Without a doubt the level of fitness is the biggest difference. English rugby used to be a bit set-piece to set-piece. I find now there is a lot less space,

The special aspect of a

rugby union game has changed. You can't have a professional game and have a big social thing afterwards. There are so many prizes for winning. Bedford have to get into the first division. If Bedford don't, I'm sure Frank Warren is not going to be too happy after he has invested so much money. I see quite a lot of Frank. He is chairman of the club. He has a hands-on

role now. He said at his last press conference that it was his money, so he is going to dictate how it is going to be spent.

"I have signed for Bedford for four years. I have signed for the Broncos for three years. Then I'm going to be a long time retired. I've got to make the most of these last couple of years and then seek other employment." He is certainly doing that.

ICE HOCKEY

Nottingham negotiate marathon semi-final

By Norman de Mesquita

IN THE longest game in the history of British ice hockey. Nottingham Panthers beat Ayr Scottish Eagles 6-5 to qualify for the Superleague championship final next Saturday, where they will meet Sheffield Steelers, who were 5-2 winners over Cardiff Devils in the other semi-final.

With 512 minutes of regulation time to go, and Ayr leading 5-2, Mike Blaisdell, the Nottingham coach, queried the legality of Ryan Kummus's stick. The curvature of the blade was found to be over the limit and, during the resulting Nottingham power play, Ian Bishop scored to narrow the gap to two Neil Morgan and Bishop then brought the Panthers level within the next 80 sec-onds and what had looked like a convincing Ayr victory became an extraordinary

The teams embarked on a ten-minute sudden death overtime period, but it proved to be the first of five such periods which failed to pro duce a goal. It was not until the sixth minute of the sixth extra session that Jeff Hoad scored to bring the Panthers

their hard-earned success. That ended 115 minutes and 49 seconds of actual playing time and the game took four hours and 33 minutes to complete. Both goaltenders -Sven Ramf, of Ayr, and Trevor Robins, of Nottingham — made some spectacular saves during overtime, knowing that one small mistake could cost their team the game. Robins, asked if he had found it difficult to maintain concentration over such a long period, said: "Concentration is tougher at the start, but, in a long game like that, it is essential to keep a positive frame of mind; the fatigue factor is the biggest problem.

For Kummu, it was an amazing lapse as he had been penalised for the same offence in a quarter-final game against Manchester Storm. Had Blaisdell seen that on television? "I read about it." he said, "but I was desperate and we needed a power play." Ironically, the winning goal came after Bishop had been sent to the penalty box for a holding offence, but Hoad broke away and sank i

rebound for the winner. Sheffield's win over Cardiff seemed mundane by comparision. It was something of a surprise, as the Devils had had the better of their league meetings this season, but the Steelers played a strong, disciplined defensive game and never allowed Cardiff to set-

Results, page 33

St Helens accept early invitation to final

Salford Reds 20

By Christopher Irvine SUCH is the overwhelming

sense of confidence at St Helens that, several minutes before the end of a crushing Silk Cut Challenge Cup semifinal victory, joyous supporters were having leaflets advertising Wembley pack-ages pressed into their hands. It was strange to hear Shaun McRae, their Australian coach, insist that at no time in the match had he felt comfortable, because it is the self-belief that he has preached in the past 14 months that has put steel in the St Helens spine. Wigan have handed out countless

cially humbling.
Poor Salford. Only Wigan's freakish 71-point drubbing of Bradford five years ago

spared them conceding the heaviest defeat in a semi-final. It is easy to criticise the gamble on Cartwright and Platt, who were not alone in carrying injuries, but Andy Gregory, the Salford coach. was honest enough to admit that even a fully-fit side would

not have stopped a rampant St McRae was probably alone among the 12,580 at Central

Park in biting his lip. In Private Fraser's favourite word, Salford - "Dad's Army" - appeared "doomed" from the beginning. Pitchforkcarrying veterans are no match for swaggering young guns. St Helens bristled with pace, nerve and intuition and long before the finish Salford's weary tacklers had bowed to the inevitable.

master classes at Central Bobbie Goulding, who ends Park, but the one given by St a six-match suspension next month for his dismissal in the Helens on Saturday was espefourth round defeat of Wigan. has much for which to be grateful. There is little doubt that he, not Lee Briers will be

the St Helens scrum half at Wembley on May 3, but the youngster has coped admirably, not least on Saturday with six from eight goal attempts. while being guided and cajoled by the excellence of

Tommy Martyn outside him. Julian O'Neill, who is improving in the front row with every appearance, is the one newcomer in a side whose

Full results and league tablesPage 34

assurance and cocksure manner has swelled with winning the Challenge Cup and Super League last year. Perhaps only Bradford, who McRae expects to beat Leeds in the other semifinal at Huddersfield on Saturday, can best exploit the lapses that allowed Blakeley. Rogers and McAvoy their second half tries. With the exception of Leeds, we wouldn't like not have gone again," McRae said. "There's a theory that you have to get beaten in a final to win one. If Bradford get through, I just hope that doesn't work out." Although Keiron Cunningham took the man-of-the-

match award, embellished by a stunning individual try and some risible tackling on Salford's part, there were any number of candidates. Karle Hammond's switch from stand-off to loose forward last season has proved productive. Three times his subtle timing and passes in midfield un locked the Salford defence to release the unstoppable Alan Hunte down the right. Down the left flank, Salford

were no less wobbly. Anthony Sullivan's hat-trick was completed in 22 minutes. By far the best of his tries was the first, as Newlove swotted off

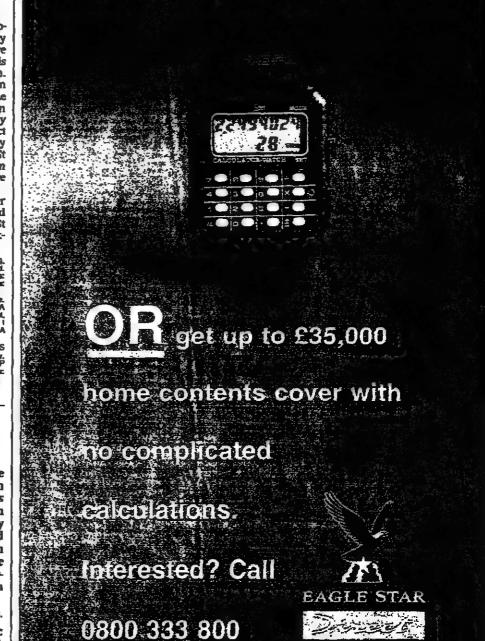
less Salford trio was so busy tracking the centre they were thrown off the scent by his

neat switch infield to Sullivan. Salford were justified in their grievance about the build-up to the try by Joynt on half-time. Rogers was wrongly judged to have made contact with the kick put up by Martyn, which allowed St Helens six extra tackles from which they made the score

For the final, helter-skelter try by Prescott, Salford had already retreated, while St Helens supporters were booking their trips to London.

SCORERS: St Helens: Tries: Hunle (3), Sulvian (3), Joynt, Cunningfrem, Prescoti. Goels: Briers (6), Marryn Selford Rods: Tries: Biakeley, Rogers, McNarry Goels: Biakeley (3) Blakeloy (4)
ST HELENS: S Prescult. D Arviolot. A Hunte.
P Newtone, A Suffron; T Marryn, L Bners; A
Pereini, K Curningham, J O'Neel, C Joyn.
C Morley, K. Hastmann, Substitutes: 1
Packavance, V Massaulie, D McVey, A
Morthey

Northey SALFORD REDS: D Rogers; F Sni, S Hoylor, N McAvoy, P Coussons, S Blaheley, I Walson: A Plair, P Folvands, C Eccles, P Forber, J Centwight, D Halme, Subatthyles: L Savelio, C Randell, E Fairnato, S Montin.



Shannon tread well-worn trail to another title

nobody would quibble with

Terenure College

By KARL JOHNSTON

LIMERICK'S annual Civic Week is in full swing, and those who chose to attend local attractions other than the Insurance Corporation League rugby union match at Thomond Park on Saturday should be congratulated on

their judgment. The absence of tries tells it like it was: a dreary encounter, dominated by the goalkickers
Andrew Thompson, of Shannon, and Girvan Dempsey, for Terenure.

Not that the Shannon faithful will worry. Their team took another, albeit faltering, step towards a third successive league title, the winning of

reference and a design to the second
which now looks a near-certainty. However, they were somewhat fortunate to get past opponents who refused to be overawed.

Before this match Shannon had experienced a few close shaves in the defence of their league title. Last Saturday they were thoroughly unconvincing, as turned-over possession and knock-ons proliferated.

Once, late in the first half, Shannon moved the ball well, when Billy O'Shea all but bruke the cover, but, with the pack providing only spasmodic clean possession, chances for the backs were at a premium.

By contrast. Terenure launched far more promising attacks, featuring some good running by Ciaran Clarke, the full back, and the inventive Michael Smyth in the centre. Shannon's defence was, though, as well organised and resolute as usual. A draw may have been a fairer

result, though Terenure's supporters can point to the two missed goal kicks by Dempsey. Thompson, whose form as a goal-kicker tends to blow hot and cold for Shannon, also missed a

veritable sitter. from the 22-metre line. The two exchanged penalty goals within the first 16 minutes, before Dempsey's second successful kick, left Terenure leading 6-3 at half-time. Then, he and Thompson each landed two more goals to leave Shannon trailing 12-9 at the start of the final

It was then that Terenure's luck ran out. First Mark Egan was penalised at a lineout and Thompson's fourth penalty goal fied the scores with some

offensive then broke down, Shannon roared back, the Terenure forwards handled in a ruck and Thompson kicked Shannon into the lead. Only Dungannon. Old Crescent and Instonians stand between Shannon and that third league triumph, and the match at Stevenson Park this Saturday is likely to be their only real test in the pursuit of victory.

Inter pursuit of Victory.

SCORERS: Snannor: Penalty goals: Thompson [5]. Terrura College: Penalty goals: Dempsey [4].

SHANNON: P. Misray, B. O'Shea, A. McGash, C. McDermoft, A Thompson; J. Galum, G. Russelt, J. Hockey, J. Deagan, N. Healy, A. Qualtan, R. Sherti, M. Garwey, E. Halvey, A Foley Currtan replaced by N. Mahor (STrim), Helsey replaced by M. Haran (68), J. Heges temposary replacement for O'Shea Heyes, (54-55).

TERENURE: COLLEGE: C. Clarke, G. Dempsey, M. Smyth, C. de Gassun, D. Colleman, S. Curlian, N. Hogan; D. Hyland, C. Egan, P. Bruce, J. Fally, G. James, M. Curtin, B. Kavanagh, M. Egan, Cullen replaced by J. Muldowney (47); M. Egan replaced by D. Miorlarty (75).

Reteres: D. Napser (Mister)

Phone for a free home insurance quote weekdays 8am-8pm, Seturday 9am-2pm

TENNIS

Cross country

Tufilit: World championships: Senior men (12.3lon) 1. P. Tergat (Ken) 35man 11src. 2. S. Hissou (Mor) 35.13, 3. T. Myanlo (Ken) 35.20. 4. P. Kocch (Ken) 35.23. 5. M. Mourtual (Bell 35.35. 6. B. Barmada (Ken) 35.25. 7. J. Koor (Ken) 35.37. 8. I. Sgnar (Mor) 35.55. 7. J. Koor (Ken) 35.37. 8. I. Sgnar (Mor) 35.56. 9. J. Rey (So) 35.57. 10, K. Boutama (Mor) 35.59, 14, J. Brown (GB) 36.08. Junior men (8.5m.) 1. E. Korr (Ken) 24.29. Senior women (6.7km), 1. D. Tufu (Eith) 23mm 35.8cc. 2. P. Raciellie (GB) 20.55. 3. G. World (Eth) 21.00. 4. J. Vacquero (So) 21.01. 5. Sparsosio (Nen) 21.05. 6. M. Denboba (Eth) 21.18; 7. C. Mctvernan (Ire) 21.20. 8. N. Mugo (Ken) 21.29. S. O'Sulivan (Ire) 21.25. 10. J. Omoro (Ken) 14.29. 3. A. Worldu (Eth) 15.02. G. S. World (Eth) 15.02. G. Sulivan (Ire) 21.25. 10. J. Omoro (Ken) 14.59. 3. A. Worldu (Eth) 15.02. Sullivan (Ire) 21.25. M. Williams (Shaftesbury-Bamel) 32mn 16sec. 2. M. Ginvan (Warmy-Ion) 32.41; 3. L. Altenson (Morpeth) 22.58. Years (Warmyton) 32.10. Over-50: B. O'Neill (Alcershot, Famham and Dictrict) 32.40. Over-59: R. Highrens (lyveddel) 35.45. Over-69: C. Legh (Norwich) 38.18. Over-69: D. Howarth (Leight 34.42. Over-70: B. Chadley) 19.53. Over-69: D. Fallows (Campotic and Peterlee) 19.11. 3. L. Mar (Iyneddel) 26.09. Women: 1. L. Harding (Houghton and Peterlee) 19.11. 3. L. Mar (Iyneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.13. 3. L. Mar (1yneddel) 19.24. Team: Houghton end Peterlee) 19.1

Track and field CRAWLEY: Open meeting: Men: Ham-mer: M Jones (Shahesbury Barnet) 67 16m Women. Pole vault: J Whitlock (Trafford) 3:50 Discus: I. Keightley (Bradmell) 47 44

Fell running Fell running
CHIPPING. Lancesture. Flendsdale race
(SM. 2-600h). Merc. 1, G. Devme (Pudsey
and Bramley) Thr 13min 33sec (record): 2,
S. Luescy (Cayton-le-Moors) 1,14-55, 3. A.
Ting (Glossopolae): 11-61 Ti. Women (SM.
3-800t, inc English champonships second
ace): 1,10-tark (Pudsey and Bramley 35m)
thi Johnn 45sec (record): 2, C. Crofts (Dark
Peak, W35, 37m) 1,31:11; 3, Y. Hague
(Pudsey and Bramley 38th) 1-31-25
LLANBEDR, South Wales: Pen Cerrig
Cach race (3M, 1-500t): inc Weish champonships second race). Ment: 1, T. Davies
(Merca, L20): 39min 35sec (record), 2, J.
Bickett (Mandale) 28-29, 3, W. Kerman (urustrached): 28-31. Women: 1, A. Naton (Myydry de Cymru, W35, 25m) 33-11 (record); 2,
A. Bedzelf (flyrighy de Cymru, W35): 34-00;
3, C. Ashton (urual/ached): 38:33.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Fridey: Choster 73 Triarmes Valley 87 Saturday: Crystal Palace 76 (Awrita 18, Scartibloury 17, Carryrings 18) Newcastle 86 (File 20 Blatock 19, Mor-ton 18), Hennel and Wasterd 88 (Shiter 26, Vogel 22, Hopper 11, Schultz 11) London Towers 113 (Gottfined 16 Austin 15, Wind-ten 18) Desir 98 (C.McCina 21, Brildt 16, Yoges 22, Hopper 11, Software 11, Contact Towers 113 Centhred 16 Austin 13, Wind-less 13) Derby 98 (C McGeo 21, Ratifel 16, Robusson 15) Lecaster 85 (Renkrarg 21, Pri-cents 17, Harns 14, L McGeo 14) Worthung 77 (Harmiston 31, Tremana 20) Shelfiold 84 (Winters 33, Caustrom 20, Huggins 16)

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*not including last right's matches
*not including last right's matches
MATIONAL LEAGUE: Mart Flat distance:
Liverpool 95 Solemt 93, Mid Sussex 91
Cardil 88 Nothingham 88 Ware 90: Oxford
21 Coverthy 78 Second division: Finishme
67 Thames Valley 87: Northampton 68
Chessington 91, Slough 78 Bournemouth
62. South Wates 99 South Bank 85
Women: First division: Barking and Dagenham 88 Northampton 60: Epockin 61
Birthingham 68, London; 44 Thames Valley
73: Nothingham 57 Hericsden 52, Rhomidda
71 Crystal Palace 55: Spelthome 52
Sheffield: 89 Second division: Play-office
Semi-final: Liverpool 86 Leocesies 55
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Fridey:

Semi-final: Liverpool 96 Leucesier 55
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Friday:
Orlando 104 Boslon 96; Charlotte 102
Toronto 97; Philadelphia 112 New Jersely
110; Miseria 98 LA Lalions 97; Alkanta 93
Datas 72; Detroit 112 Minnesota 96;
Chicago 117 Indiana 98, Vancouver 108
Detwer 101; Socramento 114 San Antonro
110 (OT) Saturdely: Wachington 108
Partand 104, Charlotte 100 Golden Sate
33 (OT), Chicago 103 Detroit 88; Cleveland
75; Datas 72; Phoprix 104 Houston 93;
Micraille 80 New York 79; Utah 107; LA
Clopers 94; Seztife 113 Secramento 99

TOUR MATCH: Bridgetown (first day of three) Indians 210 (A D Jadee 50, D Marshall 6-62) v Barbados SHEFFIELD SHEED: Final Pwell (find day of bur): Queensland 220 and 250-2 (T D Barsby, 111, S G Law 72), Western Australia 185; M W Goodwin 65, A Oale 6-83) RED STRIPE CUP (find day of four): Berbice, Guyana: Guyana 281 (C L Hooper 19, C B Lamber 55; I R Bertop 5-82) and 24-0, Threadal and Tobego 4-83; P V Sermons 116, D Ganga 54, Berhop 50) St Cathenne, Jamanca: Jamanca 156 and 37-9 dec (M D Ventura 96, J C Adams 73, 1 Garnok 50); Lewward Islands 146 (F A Rose 6-63) and 9-1 94, Sezille 113 Seziamenta Marito Gibbian Marito Gibbian W L Pet 50 17 7-46 01 49 19 1721 38 29 557 001 33 485 Sey 20 46 303 01 35 188 02 557 01 35 485 02 20 35 188 03 18 49 289 11 56 188 Meant
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Toronto MILAN-SAN REMO RACE (294km)* 1, E. Zabel (Gr., Doutscho Toleloom) dhe 57mm 47mc; 2, A Ein (R. Casaro); 3, B. Conte (t., Schoro); 4, F. Casaronado (ft., Sasco); 5 M. Barriol (ft., Magilitato MG), 6, M. Celestino (t., Poth), 7, S. Uchakov (Ut., Poth), 8, R. Sonensen (Den, Rebobank); 9, A. Ferngato (t., Roslotto); 10, A Noe (ft., Ascs); 15, M. Soandri (GB), La Française den Jeun) eltrarre time. 13 14 5 22 5 27 5 30 5 750 662 493 563 284 239 W E 51 17 45 23 33 34 22 45 19 48 16 51 12 58

Scandin (GB, Lai Frontaisse teas seasy en-serie time es: Appliance Plugs March Hare race (Eastway carcut, London, 100km) Ment 1, R Hayles (Team Ambrosa) 2h 23min 36sec; 2, J Tanner (Controlware RT) same trine; 3, N Cralg (Damondoach) at 10sec Women (64km); 1, J Freeman (Easterley RC) The 47min 10sec; 2 J Mann Phatow CC) same time; 3, S Boyden (Addináge CRT) at 12sec. 17'-28'-31'-31'-GOLF OFLANDO, Florida: Bay Hill Invitational: Landina office ores rounds (United States: unless states): 205: O Unceal 69, 67, 69 200: T Henon 70, 70, 66; M O'Meora 72, 66, 69: S Appleby (Aus.) 73, 63, 70, 207: P Mickelson 72, 66, 70; L Roberts 70, 67 70 20th O Love III 71, 68, 07, B Andrade IB, 73, 67, C Parry 69, 71, 68 209; M Bradley 71, 69, 69 9 R Darroon 70, 70, 69; C Monagomene (GB) 73, 66, 70; P Shewert 69, 70, 70

FOR THE RECORD

BOXING

CRICKET

CYCLING

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey: World Boxing Council light-heavyweight championship; Montall Grillin (US) is Hoy Jones (US; holder) disq 9th.

WYTHENSHAWE FORUM, Manchester) to Neil Swear (Cardiff) he 10th. Heavy-weight (Smots) Wayne Lieweilyn (Deptoro) is Neil Swear (Cardiff) he 10th. Heavy-weight (Brids) Wayne Lieweilyn (Deptoro) is Neile Sedific (Umds); Jae Calzaghe (Newbridge) is Tyler Hughes (US) he 1st. Light weiterweight (Brinds) Ngel Wonton (Liverpool) is Wayne Bourireaux (US) is 1st. Light weiterweight (Brids) Ngel Wonton (Liverpool) is Wayne Bourireaux (US) is 1st. Light weiterweight (Brinds) Michael Gornez (Manchester) drew with Mark Richards (Wednesbury) Featherweight (Armds) Michael Gornez (Manchester) is John Farrel (Bootle) rise 2nd CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas: World Boxing Council super-leatherweight championship (Seanard Hernerdez (Mex) bi Azumah Nelson (Ghaná, holder) is International Boxing Association Giph-Ryweight championship (vacard): Michael Carbajal (Mex) bt Scotty Olson (Car) ko 10th SARABURI, Trailard International Boxing Federation mini-Ryweight championship: Rattanapol Durchboygym (Tha, holder) bt Lus Dona (Co) ko 4th 7'- Cambridge 2'-1

HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE. First divisant NATIONAL LEAGUE First division Buehars 1 Hull 2 Roumelle 3 Bother - Bromele 4 Indian Gyrahana 1 Betterant 5 Isca 3. City of Portenath Javani - Crospy 3 Oxford Haves of December 2 Oxford University 1 Edubasion 2 Street 3. Glaucester City 2 St Albaris 1 Haven - Blagges 0 Stourport 2 Warranger 7 Trigans 1

Croshy 21 4 3 14 30 63 15 Tropins 21 1 4 16 25 75 MASTRO AZALFRO LEAGUE Premer Laugue: Wolunghem 1 Gore Court 5 Hampshire/Surrey: Old Cranbograms Lordon University 1 Kent Sussey Blackheath 1 Heme Bay 0 KARACHI: Golden Jubiley five-nation tournement: Round-robin melches: Australia 3 Palestan 3 German, 3 Molar 1 Third-place play-old Australia 4 Partier 1 Third-place play-old Australia 5 Primer division: Salbeday Balcan Levicity lossed 5 Stoph 4 Sollon Carter 1 Third played 5 Stoph 4 Sollon Carter 1 Third played 5 Stoph 4 Sollon Carter 1 Third played 5 Stoph 4 Sollon Carter 1 Third Sollon Bueharts 1 Weight 65 Stoph 5 Stoph 4 Sollon 5 Third Sollon Bueharts 1 Weight 65 Stoph 65 St

ICE SKATING LAUSARRE World thurshoods Name to desire First 1 2 3 10 5

RUGBY LEAGUE

Semi-final St. Holens: Trest: Earlier 2, Horte 3, Land Trest Goals: Brest Wester: Sailand Reds: Trest: Earliery, Walter: Propert Goals: Bakery 4, All:

Stones Super League Harideer :8 Sheffed Helder Thes Baltim 2 Maria Trucy Goal Structer Sheffield Tries: Lanless, Senter Goals Form 4, Alt 5,271.

First division Santon 14 Workington

Control of the entertainty of the Second (400) Sec Vihitehaven 20 Hz Whateleaser Tries Learnwale, Martin, Visions Seem Goals: Hotterrator 2 Hall Trees sinteen 2 Dosby Goals, Mart 3 Hottes Administration DONINGTON PARK Aucosom Brosh Formula Three championship Fey round

Build Bill of Millian Library Colors Heavy Color of Side Dynamer Col Colors Milly Charles & \$5,000 MOTOR RALLYING

Moment Final Country C

MOTORCYCLING PHILLIP ISLAND Australia World Superbike championship. First race: Normal and Horizon Almond College.

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HENLEY University women's Boat Race Comprises of Torono to the Torono to Comprise the Reserve race Bondered Services of Torono to Comprise Services of Toro

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

FROAT'S LATE PESIZIS: Cohem 18 Section 30 Pere Sert-Gamein 18 Leeds 18 Warmpton 18 Landon 88

Swinton: Trees Oran 2. Goals: Pétiture 2. Workington: Pries: Alen Carrathell, **Goals:** Brown: Krama Alen 1274

FRIDAY'S LATE PESSILT: DELETING 17 Feature 19 Par D L F A Ps. Turners 19 Ps. 19

Second division 16 Rochdale Ватом Barrow, Trees Touris State Goels: Merandru J. Plochdale: Yries: Close Patrons, Political Statens General 2 Apr 208 Denzaster 17 Saday

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NATIONAL CONTENENCE LEAGUE Premier division: Lock Lane 13 Mayfeld 12: Sections 11 First division: Blackbrook 32 Legit East 14: Outdoor Blackbrook 32 May Earsweck 20 Dewisbury Moor 23, York Acont 23 Moldogeer 10, Second divisions: New Earsweck 20 Dewisbury Moor 23, York Acont 23 Moldogeer 10, Second divisions: New Earsweck 20 Dewisbury Moor 23, York Acont 29 Moldoge 12: Outdoor 12 Moldoge 14: Outdoor 18, Kells 22 Migan St Patrick's 26 Ovenden 31 Milliond 36, Staw Cross 10 Elearborough 34: Siddel 6 Sectaugh 9: West Bowleng 8 Clayfon 22 ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Sellend 16 St Hebris 8 Australian Super League: Herner Mariners 38 North Queensland Cowloops

AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE Human Manners 38 North Couensland Controps 10: Perth Western Reds 34 Canterbury Bulldogs 6 Pennith Panthers 38 Cronulla State 10: AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (APL): Blasman 8 St George 20 Panamatia 2 Sydney Colle Could Couensland 6: Newcastle 44 South Couensland 0: South Sydney 17 Western Suburbs 9.

SAILING

BT CLOBAL CHALLEGE: Foorth in Sydney to Cape Town, positions as at 13-30 GMT vesterday, with miles to Cape Town). 1, Group 4 2,911; 2, Concert 2,935; 3, Sale The Chachen 2,950; 4, Global Tearmont 2,954; 5, Toshiba Wawe Wemor 2,960; 6, Commercial Union 2,981; 7, Vetterda 3,013; 8, Ocean Rover 3,087; 9, 30-37; 5,098; 10 Courtauds International 3,124; 11, Time & Tibe 3,131; 12, Heath Insured II 3,178; 13, Nuclear Electric 3,179; 14, Pauser To Remainter 3,200.

SKIING

TIGNES, Famor: British Land national championships Marc Super giart sistem;

1. J.L. Cecher (Fr) Timn 17 39sec; 2, K. Stasser (Austria) 1 18 02; 3, C. Pichter (Austria) 1.18 1.2 Bidish: 4 equal, G. Bali Henney) and A. Freshwater (Loch Insh);

1.9 34; 6, F. Medini (Edniburght 1:19.80. Leading overall positions: 1, Freshwater 27 John 2. J. Chamber (Band Bornand) 232; 3, P. Green (Fabrick 206, Worsen Super giant sistem: 1, E. Carrist-Anderson (Euroberel 1,23:13, 2, A Gel Espens (Sp) 122:18; 3, S. Ormond (Grand Bornand) 123:32; British: 6, S. Robertson (Aberdeen) 1,24,81; 8, K. Morrs (York 1:25 70 Leading overall positions; 1, Campic-Anderson 300; 2 equal Comprise and Robertson 280.

SPEEDWAY SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Fridey: Bale Vue 48 Coverny 42: Peterborough 41 King s Lym. 49. Saturday: Coverny 45 Wolfer-rumptor: 46: Brodient 56 Swandon 34 Vesterday: Eastbourne 53 (powich 37

RACING

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" LA Lakers
Portand
LA Clipport
Phoens
Sacramento
Golden State
" denotes :

BILLIARDS

DONCASTER

2.00 (6) 1. Rising Of The Moon (Pat Eddery, 7-2 lay) 2. Classy Cleo (10-1), 3. O' Higgins (11-2) 14 ran 8h hd, 2h R. Harryon, 70e: 54 fb; £2.30, £3.40, £2.10 DF; £16 80. Tho £23.70, C3F; £34.91. 2.30 (7) 1. Simme Delight (M Hills, 14-1); 2. Jay-Ous-Two (14-1), 3. Normons Mr Niceguy (10-1), 4. Bolin Terry (16-1) Rentow Rem 11-2 Inv. 22 ran. 3, 41 B Hills Toles 223.00; 24.90, 52.90, 51.80, 512.60, DF: £141.70 Tror £1.011.50 CSF: £173.84 Trough; £1,949.67.

E173.84 Treost: £1,949 67.
3.00 (1m) 1. Musainal (M Hills, 13-2); 2. Handsome Redge (4-1 g-law); 3. Craspevar (5-2) Canatime 4-1 g-law; 12 ran. Shind, 51. Brids Tote: £9.00; 53.00, £1.40, £2.00 DF: £13.10 Tho £18.00, CSF £29.11.
3.40 (1m) 1, Kussia Lipis (7 Quinn, 11-1), 2. Hash-sley Hill (7-1 g-law), 3. Turnisheward Redge (7-1 g-law); 4. Januar, £80-1) 24 ran. Shind, 11 P Cole, Tote: £19.0, £2.40, £2.20, £2.20, £16.00 DF: £52.90, Tho D2.20 CSF £65.75 Traces: £5-45.32 New a stewards inquiry, masuit stood. a timento's inquey, result stood.
4.18 (1m 4) 1, Sheer Denzig (I. Detten, 7-4) 2, Wilstander (13-8 tay); 3, Major Change (13-2) 6 ran NR: Prospector's Cove. 6, 3-9, R Amstrong, Tota: £2.30; £1 60, £1 40, DF, £2.00 CSF; £4.31.

2.1 od., 5.1 nd. 07. E2.00 CSP: £4.31. 4.48 (6f) 1. Royal Applause (M Hills, 6-4 (se) 2. Easy Dollar (1-1); 3, King Oi Pen (25-1), 6 ran, 21, 141 B Hills, Tole, £2.30; £1.40, £2.40, £6.10, DF: £8.50 CSP: £17.84. Mile High (8-13 tav); 3, Silent Miracle (10-1). 8 ram 1 4 i. nk. 8 Hills Tote, £4 90; £1 60, £1 10, £2.90 DF £3.30 CSF £8 96. eckpot: £11,387.40. Placepot: 293.20.

Quadpoi: £11,80. NEWBURY

1.15 1, Senor El Betrutti (Evens lev); 2, Pyr Four (4-1); 3, Vallant Warnor (3-1); 4 ran. 1.45 1, Kadestrof (6-1); 2. Ashwell Boy (6-1); 3. Shanker (11-1), Humilton Suk 9-4 (av fi), 7 run, NiF Fonestal 2.15 1, Lucia Forse (7-2 tav); 2, Farnasy Line (12-1); 3, Fidding The Facta (9-2), 11 2.50 1, Quality (9-4 keV); 2, Hauer (7-1), 3, Riperius (6-1), 18 ran NR Keen But, Song Of The Sword, Tarragon 3.20 1, Red Branch (5-6 lav); 2, Boots N.All (5-1); 3, Marrany's Choice (8-1), 7 ran. 3.66 1, John Drumm (2-1); 2. Classy Lad (7-4 tsv); 3, Maeterinck (50-1). 13 ran. 4.30 1. Country Beau (11-4 lav), 2. Golden Eagle (7-2); 3, Bold Leap (16-1) 21 ran NR-Hack On, Mad Harry, Mary Leader, Regal Spang.

Placepot: £71.10. Quadpot: £4.10. BANGOR

2.10 i. Plortd (6-4 lavi, 2. Knnescad (14-1); 3. Jessolle (86-1). 16 ran. 2.45 1, Night Bost (7-2 p-lav), 2. Nord Lys. (20-1): 3, Never So Blue (16-1); 4, Palece Of Gold (9-2) Classic Account 7-2 ji-lav (f) 18

3.50 1, Chopwell Curtains (11-2); 2, Mysic inle (16-1); 3, Around The Gale (1-2 fm) 7 ran. NR. Backy's Girl, Mindysrownbusiness 4.26 1, Peerl Epse (14-1); 2, Campache Bay (4-7 law; 3, Dee Light (25-1) 10 ran NF Steel Divines; 4.56 1, Seletten (4-1); 2, Prussia (10-1); 3, Whrn's Pride (4-1) Jervaulx 7-2 law, 13 ran.

5.25 1, Go Cahoots (12-1); 2 Driky Dora (16-1); 3. Galeshan (12-1). Arctic Fox, Shropshre Gale 9-4 (1-favs. 17 ran. LINGFIELD PARK

1.30 1, Seettle Alley (13-8); 2, Cuckers Field (8-11 lav); 3, Veronica Franco (66-1), 7 2.40 1. Ruth's Gamble (5-1); 2, Yelkow Dragon (13-2), 3, Densbey (6-2), Swinging Sudies 7-4 lav. 10 nan NR: Millengum Lass. 3.10 1, Wee Windy (10-11 p-less), 2, Little Martina (10-11 g-less), 3, Napoleon's Gold (20-1) 3 ran. 4.20 1. Tickerty's Gift (11-8); 2, Merus (5-4 tav); 3, Courageous Kright (3-1), 3 nsr. NR: I'm A Dreamer.



Sophie Ormond, the Great Britain skier, on her way to third place in the super giant slalom at the British Land national championships at Tignes, France, in a time of lmin 23.32sec. Report, page 27

A PARCE TO STATE MANCHESTER: 8T Connections Super-league championship: Semi-linels: Cardiff 2 Sheffield 5: Notingham 6 Ayr 5 (soth Northwest division 38 23 11 216 182 87 34 31 7 251 242 75 38 33 78 221 252 65 24 33 15 200 212 63 24 40 9 211 253 67 * Busialo Pitisburgh Montreel Hartlord Ottawa Soston PREMIER LEAGUE: Slough 6 Guilding 1: Seridon 6 Kingson 0 MONTHERN PREMIER PLAY-OFFS: Second round: Blackburn 8 Passey 11, Reteisonough 17 Murrayadd 7: Whitiay 0 Fife 5. Western Conference
Central division

W. L. T. F. A. Pra.
43 23 6 224 17.3 92
34 22 15 226 159 83
35 34 5 213 222 75
31 32 9 213 219 71
28 32 12 188 184 98
26 41 8 210 263 68 PRE 3.

MATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Ottawa 5
Boston 4: New Jersey 3 Pithibusch 2: NY
Islanders 3 Philadelphia 3 (IOT): Florids 3
Buffalo 2: Washington 3 Montreel 1.
Proems 3 Toronto 0. Los Angeles 2 Sen
Jose 1: Vancouver 3 Tumpa Bay 2. * Deltas * Deltat Phoenix St Louis Eastern Continue Atlantic division **Préade bris 40 21 11 945 190 91 *** Préade bris 40 21 11 945 190 91 *** New Jersey *** 50 63 203 165 91 Fonds 23 4 17 201 179 69 NY Rangers 14 30 9 235 206 77 Vrastrogon 29 36 8 185 204 66 74 Terros Bay 26 37 7 194 226 195 NY Harmieni 25 58 11 202 215 61

. ATHLETICS.

CHEPSTOW: TSS achools cross-country intermetional: loteruredate boye: 1, C Thompson (Eng) 18min Oteo: 2, I Ahmed [Eng) 18:20; 3, S Vesnon (Eng) 18:20; 3, S Vesnon (Eng) 18:25 Teams Product Junior boye; 1, M Familia Teem: England. Junior boys: 1, TM Famili (Eng) 14:14:2, J Burrows (Eng) 14:28; 3, C Watson (Soot) 14:32. Teem: England. Intermediate girls: 1, J Swatow (Eng) 15:04; 3, C Campbell (Eng) 15:46; 3, C Campbell (Eng) 15:46. Teem: England. Junior girls: 1, C Broe (Irg.) 11:49; 2, C Terry (Eng) 12:07; 3, S Rawen (Eng) 12:11. Teem: England.

BOXING ASTON VILLA LESURE CENTRE: Netional championstape finale: Seniors:
21 lgr; M Enggs (All Sainte HS, Towerthif) bit
C Catweight (St Michaels), 79kg; S Priote
(Home Tulbon) bit A Khan (Harhudh
Comprehensive) 67kg; H Wood (Ahrawei)
Comments bit A Barrel (East Lea
Community, Newham), 63.5kg; D Smith
(Broadoak HS, Parlington) bit M Welsh
(Hedaloke Comprehensive, Swanley), 60kg;

T McDonaghi (St Masteri's RC HS) lost to M. Wassifeshead (Halland Perk ABC) 5-48-g; S. Truscott (Eaton Perk) bt J. O'Rüley (St Bonsventure'a) 5-48-g; M. Conception (Beaumont Laya) bt S. O'Donnell (Home Tution), 81-lig; J. Garfotth (Battey) bt M. Zamen (Langdon, Newham) 4-88-g; R. Robson (Harrispool Catholic) bt J. Convey (St John Fisher RC). 48-lig; M. Mastohell (Eastboure Comprehensive, Daringson) br N. May (St Bonsventure's, Newham). 4-28-g; D. Cook. (Robert Klack) bt D. O'Gracy (Mostern Brook).

FOOTBALL ENGLISH GOODYEAR UNDER-16 TRO-PHY: Semi-line: NewsR Green 0 City Sch, Shaffeld 0 (ast).

RUGBY UNION UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL MATCH; England 20 France 10 (at Twickentram) Delty Mell Under-16 Cup: Final: RGS High Wycombe 29 Whitgilf 13 (at Twickentram). Delty Mell Under-18 Cup: Final: Colston's 23 Kirtham GS 12 (at Twickenham).

Courage Clubs Championship

Trueti 2, Eagle, Lowsey. Pens: Surke 2 Sale: Tries; der. Con: Verbickes Pens; 48 West Hertleppol 10

Hartequins: Tries: Walshe 3. Corporar 2, Keyter, O'Leary Const. Lacrob: 5. Pent. Lacrob: West Hartlepool: Tries: Estrashew, (at Sudbury) 62 Orreji

Tries: Logan 5, Roser 2, lock, Scrivener, Const. Rees 6, King. ses Orrell: Try: Haslop. Part Hees Orrelt; Try; Hastop.

P W D L F A Pts.

Wasps: 16 13 0 2 485 283 26

Leicester 14 11 0 3 435 214 222

Harlequins 15 10 0 5 572 309 20

Harlequins 15 10 0 5 572 309 20

Harlequins 13 8 1 4 330 271 17

Scrapens 13 8 1 4 330 271 17

Scrapens 13 8 1 0 3 318 14

Ristol 16 5 0 11 312 483 10

Wharleppool 18 2 0 11 285 470 4

Onel 16 2 0 14 211 681 470

A Const.

Ornel 16 2 0 14 211 681 4
LEADING SCORERS: 190: G Ress
(Wasss; 2 tirs; 33 cornersions, 36 penalty
goals) 187: M Mapletott (Glouceate: 4;
190: 400g, 3 dropped goals) 174: J Callard
(Batt; 21, 34c, 32pg) 161: J Litey (Lecester;
21, 20c, 37pg), 152: D Humphreys (London
Irish; 11, 18c, 34pg, 3dg) 131: P Burke
(Bristol, 21, 17c, 29pg), 129: P Grayson
(Northampton: 11, 14c, 28pg, 4dg) 56: T
Lacrotx (Harlequins, 11, 15c, 19pg) 88: M
Lynagh (Sarzosras; 7c, 24pg, 1dg), 78: W
Corling (Harlequins, 1), 17: R Harlequins, 18 charlequins, 19: H Harms
(Harlequins), 3 John (Wast Harlequon), 3
Selightholme (Bath), 8: A Adebayo (Bath), J
Guscott (Bath), 7: S Roiser (Wasps), D
Thee (Bristol), Leogatra penalty tries

Blackheath 24 Nottingham Blackheath: Tries: M Grittitis, Shactoolt. Con: Braithwalte. Pens: Braithwalte 2. Dropped goals: Braithwalte 2. London Scottish 13 Coventry London Scottlah; Try: Hunter Con: Stent. Pena: Stent 2 Coventry: Try: Smallwood Pena: Hants 2 Dropped goal: Gallagher.

88 Moseley Newcaste: Tries: Bentiey 3, Tulgamata 3, Lam 2, Stimpson 2, Amistrong, Nesdale, Wison, persity try. Const. Stimpson 5, Andrew 4, Moseley: Tries: Hall. Turner, penalty try. Const. Stuart 2. Rotherham 11 Bedford Rotherham: Try: Hill. Pener Aehlorth, Brirs. Bedford: Tries: Pluger 2, Offish, Whetstone. Cons. Rayer 3, Pener Rayer 2 31 Richmond 72 Rugby: Tries: Milner 2, Glover, Jones, N Smith Cons: Barr 2, Quantiti Richmond: Tries: S Quinnell 3, A Moore, Clarke, Cottrell, Doane, Fallon, Jones, Meson

RUGBY UNION Const Mason 8 Pent Mason. Dropped goel: A Moore Westerlos 16 Waterfeld

Pener Jeckson 2

PW D L F A Pte
Richmond 17 15 2 0 793 296 22

Bedford 18 14 0 4 628 356 28

Coventy 17 13 1 3 619 285 27

Newcaste 14 12 1 1 826 190 25

Roffesham 17 10 0 7 458 461 20

L Scottleh 15 7 0 8 384 384 14

Wakefield 15 7 0 8 331 389 14

Wakefield 15 7 0 8 331 389 14

Wakefield 17 6 0 11 308 454 12

Mosetey 17 8 0 12 300 628 10

Waterloo 16 4 0 12 304 468 6

Rugby 17 3 0 14 243 841 6

Notingham 18 1 0 17 271 719 2

LEADING SCOULES 271 9 4 Notingham 18 1 0 17 271 719 2
LEADING SCORERS: 271: 8 Meann (Richmond, 9 mas, 71 conversions, 28 penalty goals) 213: M Rayer (Bedford; 61, 60c, 21pg) 198: R Andrew (Newcastle, 31, 68c, 16pg, 1 dropped goal), 198: J Hamis (Coventry: 41, 40c, 25pg, 5dg), 171: J Seele (London Scottish: 31, 27c, 25pg, 2dg), 128: M Jackson (Wakefield, 31, 18c, 24pg, 1dg), 98: C Braitineate (Blackheastr; 11, 14c, 15pg, 3dg); C Thompson (Waterloo 12c, 25pg), 91: M Imman (Rotherham, 1c, 21pg), 50: R Le Bas (Moseley; 9c, 24pg), Tries: 18: S Cunnell (Richmond), 18: J Bentiey (Newcastle), 17: G Amstirong (Rotherham), 10: A MoAdam (Covertry), 8 Wheststone (Bediotry), 9: A Baseman (Richmond), 5 Brown (Richmond), Mason, D C'Mahony (Moseley), C Culnnell (Richmond), 1 Simpson (Newcastle), T Underwood (Newcastle), T Underwood (Newcastle),

Third division 3 Exeter - 60 Cition: Perc O'Sullivan. Exeter: Trine: Dovell 2, Batchelor, Curry, Doyle, Green, Hutchinson, Thomas, Woodman. Consc Green 6, Pen: Green

Fylde 39 Wharlockie Fytde: Tries: G Russell 2, Parker. Come: Grough 2. Parker Pens: Gough 5. Dropped goal: O'Toole Wharledele: Tries: Daves, Moursey Con: Moursey Pens: Moun-99y 2. 18 Roselyn Perk 17

Havant: Tries: Jewitt, Wells. Con: Firlin. Pens: French, Jonas. Rosslyn Paric Tries: Campbell-Lamerton, Futter Cons: Holder 2. Pent: Holder. Liverpool St H 16 Reading Liverpool St Helens, Tries: Breat, Walker Pent Breat, Dropped goel; Wellens Read-ing: Tries: Scharrenberg 3, Const: Dence 3, Pens: Cance 2 Lyciney

Lydney: Tries: Hill 3, G Williams, Knox, Pr.co, penalty by Cons: Monts 3 Pen: Monts, London Welsh: Tries: Muckell 2, Griffiths, Con: Raymond. 11 Harrogate 27 Morlay: Try: Sykes Pens: Grayshon 2. Harrogata: Tries: Decn 2. Holder Cons: Zoing 3. Pens: Zoing 2.

29 Otley Wrotest Trise A William, Burns, Cone; Mis 2. Pene: Mills 4, Dropped goal: M Walker Ottey: Thies: Billington, Burke, Kelly, Cone; Rutledge 2.

Crition 24 4 0 20 415 1017 8

LEADING SCORERS: 332 8 Gough
(Fylice; 6 tries; 52 conversions, 64 perally
goals, 2 dropped goals) 282; 6 Ansecuph
(Leeds; 91, 35c, 49pg) 257; C Raymond
(Lendon Welsh, 62, 26c, 52pg, 54p; 74e; P
Futledge (Orley, 71, 48c, 39pg), 242; R Mille
(Walsall; 11, 30c, 58pg), 1dg) 223; P Morris
(Lydney; 21, 24c, 55pg), 217; A Grean
(Exciter, 44, 45c, 34pg, 3dg), 136; J
Dance (Reading; 4t, 47c, 24pg) 176; P
Brett (Liverpool St Helsner; 18t, 21c, 18pg), 17tes; 17; M Preston (Fylde), 16; M Kirkoy
(Otley) 14; A Hodgson (Wharfedsle), 13;
Brett, G Spancer (Reading), 8 Wade
(Morley), 12; M Appleson (Leads), R Bell
(Hanogate), S Dovell (Exciter), R Methus
Leade), C Rectacanu (Lects), 13; G
Anderton (Fylde), P Congo (Fedruatri), S
Smith (Morley), S Tutpulotu (Lects),

Fourth division north Birmingham/S 25 Preston Grase Kendel 23 Sandal Manchester 73 Hereford Hunssion 19 Sheffield | Birmingham|S | 26 | Preston Grace | 8 | Kendal | 23 | Sandal | 24 | Manchester | 7 | Hurnston | 5 | Stoke-on-Trent | 5 | Stoke-on-Trent | 5 | Stoke-on-Trent | 22 | Aspatria | 36 | Stoke-on-Trent | 23 | Wirmington Park | 24 | Sandal | 24 | Sandal | 25 | Sandal | 24 | Sandal | 25 | Sandal | 26 | Sandal | 27 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 29 | Sandal | 29 | 29 | 398 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 29 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 398 | 39

Fourth division south 23 Camberley 26 Heriley 20 Weston-e-Mars 31 Met Police 2 Cheltenham 63 North Walsteam 33 Teberd Barking
Berry Hill
Charlion Park
High Wycombe
Newbury
Plymouth

Askaris 20 2 1 1 255 690 3

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Basingstoke 6 Norwich 7: Old
Cofesaris 31 Ruslip 39; Old MidOrders 31 Ruslip 39; Old MidWhilipflians 26 Southend 17: Thursook 15

Sutton and Episom 22; Wimbledon 31

Basines 10.

MIDLANDS: First division: Leighton Buzzard 11 Hardriey 27; Manasted 39 Derby 28;
Scurthopp 25 Camp Hill 13; Stafford 0

Burton 29; Stockwood Park 7 Breadstreet
45; Syston 14 Belgrave 24; Wastleigh 25

Barkers Buits 8; Whitchurch 22; Brodington 28;
Barkers Buits 8; Whitchurch 22; Waherhampton 5.

NORTH: First division: Braciliand and
Bingley 18 New Brighton 27; Bridington 38

Broughton Park 26; Hull lonaris: 13

Tyrucdee 25; Sedgey Park 33 West Park,
Bramhope 8 Sockton 28.

BOUTH WEST: First division: Bridges 11

Benstaple 28; Launescion 18 Bridges 12

REU Witters Cold Boys 21: Cembons 11

Benstaple 28; Launescion 18 Bridges 13

Malson 27 Stroud 21; Selbsbury 15 St.

Mes 20; Torquey 12 Medicinheed 12.

RFU WITERSEDATE CUP: Semi-houle.

Anglo-Welsh Cup Pool 2B Northerapton 58 Newport

HEU INTERNEDIATE CUP. Semi-finale: Concester 8 Middlesbrough 8 jast; Don-easter win on greater winning mergin in quarter-final; at Otteyl; Sudbury 13 Thurst Wonderers 18 (act, at Horiey).
PFU JUMICH CUP. Semi-finals; Coses and Nemberch 17 Periosted 12 gat LichtBeld; Harpenden 18 Huddersteld YMCA 14 (at Borton-on-Trant).
CS. 18069; 21 COMMON CUMAND CIS UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMP-IONSHIP: Semi-final: Notinghametire, Lincoinshire and Derbyshire 9 Yorkshire 27 (d. Seemon).

Northempton: Tries: Allen, Cohen, Foale, Hapter, Law, Seely, Talupu. Cons: Hepher 6 Pens: Hepher 2. Newport: Try: I James. Con: O'Commi.

Swalec Cup Carolit: Trine: I. Denkes 4. Food 2. Bennett, G Jones, Walkor Comr.: I. Jarvis 6. South Wales Pollou: Trine: Codd, D Thomas, James, Rees, S Pritchard. Corr.: J Price Part: J Price. Liane

Durwant: Tries: C Devies, Greenwood, M Devies. Spender, Walve Cons: M Thomas 3 Dropped goal: M Thomas Needt: Tree: B Williams, Hawlors, P Williams, Cons. Case 2. Per: Case Newbridge 25 Trearchy Newbridge: Tries: Cooper 2, Rossier Cone: J Williams 2, Pene: J Williams 2, Treorchy: Tries: Morgan, Owan, Corns: D Evans, D Uoyd, Pene: D Evans 2.

Yesterday Ebber Vale | Bibbw Vale: Tileax Hayward 2, K Jones, S Jones, Con: Hayward. Petr. Hayward. Caerphilips: Pers. P Philips: 2, D Philips: PW D L. F. A. T. B. Pla. Portyonidd 14.13 0 1.599.2146.711 37. Swisnissa. 14 9 0 5.565.270.215 33. Cardiff 14 9 0 5.695.2666.8 25. Lianell. 13 8 1 4.431.25754 7 24. Neulin. 15 7 0 8.389.396.58 7 21. Bibbw Vale. 15 9 1 5.296.346.32 21. Newport. 14 7 2.5.360.423.48 3.19. Durvent. 15 7 1 7.342.444.42 2.17. Tasorchy. 15 3 0.12.305.461.39 3 9. Caerphilip. 16 1 0.15.262.562.35 6 8. Newbordge. 16 3 0.13.250.715.32 0 6. 25 Caerphilly

Second division Abereson 74 Abercynon Aberavor: Tries: Ball 2, Morett 2, R Mozts 2, Baber, Diplock, Jones, N Devies, Stalk Const: Ball 8, Pen: Ball Abercynon: Try: Cordey Bonymen 13 Aberillery 23 Bonymen: Tries: G Event, P John, Pent Roberts Aberillery: Tries: Luredon, M Willers, Willess Con; M Williams, Pens M Williams 2.

Meestag Meesteg: Tries: G Jones 2, Buradge, Hemburrow, M Richards, Morgans, Strang. Const; M Richards 4. Yalredgyntais: Try: L Roberts. Pen: Hughes Cardill Inst 12 Cross Keys

Carolli Institutus: Toleus: Jones 2. Core. Cooper. Crone Keye: Toleus: Jones 2. Core. Cooper. Crone Keye: Toleus: Jones 2. Core. Cooper. Crone Keye: Toleus: Belab., Bushall. Powel. Core. Belab., Part: Belab.

PW D L F A T B Pis. Cross Keye: 19 15 0 4 600 323 84 12 42 Landovery 16 13 0 3 516 184 77 15 41 Abestanon 1711 1 5 504 334 73 14 37 Carolff Inst 19 8 1 10 476 470 10 27 Abertllory 18 11 0 7 323 312 44 5 27 Abertllory 18 11 0 7 323 312 44 5 27 Borlymann 20 9 1 10 387 430 54 7 28 Porthypool 17 10 2 5 388 286 52 4 26 5W Police 17 9 1 7 405 369 57 6 25 Maesteg 20 7 0 13 400 455 43 7 21 Blackwood 19 6 0 13 309 456 37 3 15 Abertynon 17 4 0 13 214 617 28 2 8 Ystradgyn 17 2 0 15 230 546 38 1 . 5 THRRD DIVISION: Kentig Hill 47 Feriby Uld THRD DIVISION: Nortig Hill 47 Tenty Utd 34: Merthyr 32 Llawberen 7: Buith Wels 0 Tredagar 15: Mountem Ash 34 Penerth 8.

SRU Tennents 1556 Cup

34 Contorphine Berwick: Tries: Daunce, Hindlaugh Simmons, Wilhamson, Cone: Hindlaugh Pens: Hindlaugh 2. 20 Gala 32 Currier Titles: McIntyre, Young Cones: Officer 2. Pener Officer 2. Gala: Tries; C Daigleish 2. G Daigleish 2. Changleng Cone: G Daigleish 2 Penr Changleng

Dundee HSFP 41 Gleegow Acads 5 Dunder HSFP: Tries: Gray 3, Sampson 2, M Lamork, Pearson, Corie: Patierson 3, Glesgow Academicals: Try: S Begley, Edinburgh Acads 17 Klimarnock 32 Edinburgh Academicals: Thy: Duncan Pens: Duncan 4 Kilmemock: Tries: Slew-art 2, Logan, Patile, Welsh Cons: Slewart 2 Pun: See and Edinburgh Univ 14 Glerrothes Edinburgh University: Yry: Burnett. Pers: Home 3. Glerardres: Tries: Brenner, Goodall Per: Goldie

Glasgow South 58 Aberdeen GSFP 17 Gleagow Sauthent: Trees: Dodd, Guthrie, Jackson, Jerry, Kerr, McWilliam, Richard-son Cone: Cossey 4. Pene: Coseey 5. Ab-erdeen GSFP: Try: Jones. Pene: Oddy 4. 6 Boroughmuir 19 Herwick: Pens: Sharp 2. Boroughtsuir: Tries: Burns, McLeen 2. Corns; Allien 2. Handok Lindon 15 Stewart's Mel FP 9 Hawick Linden: Tries: Oliver 2. Con: Tak Perc Tak Suswert's Mahille FP: Perc G Pollock 3.

Hertor's FP Heriot's FP: Tries: Dall. Girnore, McVie, Young Core: Lang 2. Jed-Forest: Try: Middleton. Pens: Arros 2. Rifkcaldy 76 Hamilton Acads 3 Rifkcaldy: Tries: Gilmour 4, Jardina 3, J Mitchall 2, Antorson, Howe, McDonald, Rassde, Cons: Gilmour 2, J Mitchell 2. Pert. J Mitchell. Hamilton Academicsts: Per: Thomson. Per: Thomson.
Peobles: S2 Museelburgh 8
Peobles: Tries: Harvey, Naper, Smith, Sumbles: Come: Rutharlord 3 Pens: Rutharlord 2 Museelburgh: Try: Graham Jamieson Per: C Lungstone.

St Boswells 10 Metrose St Boswells, Thy: Goodfellow. Core: Stasi.
Pen: Stall, Makose: Tries: Monoriell 3, Kerr
2, Purvis 2, Alben, Hogg, R Brown,
Rudwen, Stark. Core: Bain, Huttwen 4. Stifring County 31 Stamentry 7
Stifring County: Triest Flockhert 2,
McCullock, Stevenson, Wight, Const. M.
McKonae 3, Stevenson, Try: penalty try.
Core Campbell. West of Scotland 33 Glasgow HK 10

West of Scotland: Tries: Barrett 2, McKay. Williamson. Core: Barrett 2, Peres: Barrett 3. Glasgow High/Kelvinside: Try: Caldwell. Con: Bieckermidge. Pent. Breckermidge. PETH-HOUND DRAW: Glasgow Southern v West of Scotland; Boroughnuir v Stiring County; Edinburgh University v Kirkcaidy; Henol's FP v Berwick Paebles v Kirmanock, Dundes HSFP v Hawick Linden, Melrose v Kelso; Gela v Weltorgens.

SRU TENNENTS 1556 BCML: First round: Biggar 24 Gprotoriens 13; Bute 13 Dunfesmane 27; Grangemouth 27 Howe of File 11; Haddinglon 10 Safark 30; Helensburgh 12 Cardha QP 19; Livingston 46 Aberdeanshire 5; Preston Lodge 22 Garnook 7; Triety Academicale 48 Cone: Cone:

Insurance Corporation League Firm division

Second division

Super 12 tournament 27 N Tremewood - 7 Otago Hightenders: Tries: Fili, Wison. Con: Culture Pens: Culture 5 Northern Transvari Blue Buts: Try: Kruger. Con: Nortje. Walkabi Chiefe: Tries: Mestinews, Rehieres, Cooper Core: Cooper 2 Peres: Cooper 4. Queensiand Rede: Try: Tune. Core Enles, Remote Falor 2

of Paris

49 Centerbury Australian Capital Territory Brumbines: Tries: Feruldau 3, Gregon, Langford, Hardy. Cons: Krox 5, Pens: Knox 2 Dropped goet: Knox. Canterbury Crusad-era: Tries: Matson 2, Ken, Robertson, Bale. Cons: MacDonald 2

(at Canberra) 45 Natal Pres State Chestahs: Tries: Costase, Es. Badenhorst. Cons: De Beer 2, Smith Pens: Smith 7, Nruger. Natal Sherks: Tries: Strydom, Fyvie, Allan, Le Roux, Teichmann. Cons: Lawless 3 (at Bloemfonten)

Gauting Lions: Tries: Wiese, Johnson 5. Roux Cons: Johnson 3. Pens: Johnson 5. New South Weles Warstahs; Tries: Mur-doch, Pinau, Pinkerton Cons: Burke 3. Pens: Burke 2. Penna: Burten 2

(at Unhannesburg)

P W D L F ABon Pts

Gainteng 4 4 0 0 151 172 2 18

Natal 3 2 0 1 150 114 4 12

Walkalo 4 3 0 1 103 86 0 12

Auct.land 3 2 1 0 90 71 1 11

ACT 4 2 0 2 135 127 3 11

Free State 4 2 0 2 135 127 3 17

Free State 4 2 0 2 115 112 1 9

Walkalo 4 3 1 0 2 93 74 3 7

Chango 3 1 0 2 99 72 2 6

NSW 3 1 0 2 78 77 3 7

Cantarbury 3 1 0 2 78 77 1 5

Currensland 4 0 0 4 62 104 1 1

PRENCH CHAMPONISMO. Gauteng
Natal
Walkalo
Auchland
ACT
Free State
N Transwal
Wellington
Otago
NSW
Cardiotes

PRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A: Dyon 21 Brie 44 World Cup sevens (in Hong Kong)

(in Hong Kong)

POOL MATCHES: Pool A: Fiji 66 Namibla
0; Wales 40 Namibla 5; Wales 0 Fiji 35 Pool
6; Ivalend 7 South Ahroa 34; Ireland 5 Hong
Kong 26, South Ahroa 34; Ireland 5 Hong
Kong 26, South Ahroa 29 Hong Kong 5.
Pool C: Western Samoa 42 Microtoa 0,
-Argentina 33 Morocco 7 Western Samoa
28 Argentina 12 Pool D: France 26
Romania 0; United States 12 Romania 17:
France 40 United States 12 Romania 17:
France 40 United States 12 Romania 17:
Casaland 47 Japan 0; Tonga 35 Japan 25;
New Zealand 31 Tonga 5 Pool F: England
30 Canada 7; Cook I-banda 5 Canada 0;
England 29 Cook Islands 10 Pool G: Span
12 Korea 12; Zimbalwe 10 Rorea 21; Spain
12 Korea 12; Zimbalwe 10 Rorea 21; Spain
19 Zimbalwe 12; Pool H: Australia 28
Portugal 7;
Australia 31 Sootland 19

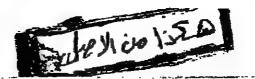
MiELROSE CUP; Quarter Sealand 15: 68 Australia 31 Scotlano 19
MELROSE CUP: Ouarter-finels: Fig. 58.
Korea C. England 5 Western Samoa 21;
South Ainca 19 France 14, New Zeetand 38
Australia 12 Serni-finals: Fig. 38 Western
Samoa 14; South Africa 31 New Zealand 7.
Final: Fig. 24 South Africa 21

PHATE (for turners-up in pool stage):
Contracthrais: Spain (Cook tetands 36.
Wales 12 Tonga 26, Argorima 5 Hong Kong
26; Scotland 43 Pornaria 19 Serri-finatis .
Sortiand 7 Hong Kong
20; Scotland 40 26; Scotland 43 Romana 19 Semi-finats. Sociland 7 Hung Kong 43, Cook Islands 10 Tonga 43 Finet: Hong Kong 19 Tonga 40. BOWL (for find-plazed teams in pools) Quarter-finats: Irelann 33 Portugel 5; Japan 24 Namiste 22. United States 24 Caracta trained 22 Japan 24. United States 24 Monoco 0, Finat Japan 28 Unied States 24 ates 40.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IFYOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE UR OTHER LUMIN SECURIOR OF THE PROPERTY OF

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RACING: LABOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD APPOINT NEW CHAIRMAN FROM SHORTLIST OF FOUR

Tote candidates await Straw poll

RACING CORRESPONDENT

IF LABOUR wins the general election, Jack Straw is likely to choose a new Tote chairman from the existing shortlist of candidates rather than reopen the selection process for the £75,000-a-year position.

However, in a fascinating twist to the Tore saga, it emerged over the weekend that the names on the Home Office shortlist are widely at variance with those which have been bandied around in recent weeks.

Four names, rather than three, were included in a report prepared for Michael

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FENWICK (3.40 Ludlaw) Next best: Suranom (2.10 Ludlow)

Howard, the Home Secretary, by his permanent under-secretary Sir Richard Wilson, after candidates had been interviewed by a selection panel. The quartet consists of Christopher Sporborg, a Jockey Club member and chairman of United Racecourses: Peter Jones, a British Horseracing Board and Tote director, Major-General Guy Watkins, formen chief executive of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club: and Maurice Lindsay, chief executive of the Rugby Football League.

Lard Astor, a former junior Heritage Minister, and Lieutement-General Sir Willie Rous, a member of the Army



Quinn drives Kuala Lipis, far side, to a short-head win over Hawksley Hill in the Worthington Lincoln at Doncaster

Board until his retirement last July, did not make it onto the shortlist, contrary to persistent speculation.

As disclosed in The Times on Saturday, Watkins, 63, was Michael Howard's belated choice for the job. However. because an election has been called, the Home Secretary

was obliged to consult his opposite number, Jack Straw, who blocked the appointment after being denied time to interview the shortlisted candidates.

which remained unanswered Lord Wyatt, who is due to yesterday was why Howard allowed himself to be delayed retire at the end of next month after 21 years at the helm of the so long in making up his mind about the Tote job. I underpool betting organistion, is

likely to be asked, with stand that he wrote to Wyatt Labour's blessing, to stay on last July, indicating he wanted for a further two months until the new chairman appointed by December so as to give him a successor has been chosen, However, the vital question time to find his feet.

Even allowing for a delay, partly so the selection process met Nolan rules, the original shortlist of eight candidates was interviewed in January being blocked by Straw.

"As an inner member of the Cabinet, Howard knew an election was coming and he could have made the decision much earlier without any problems," one Labour party source said. "Instead he dithered and dithered. It is entirely his own fault."

It is known that Wyatt lobbied intensely on behalf of Rous and the fact that the name of the former Quartermaster-General was not even included on the shortlist would have infuriated the Total chairman. "There was a great deal of politicking going on throughout February," according to one insider.

Nevertheless, sources close to the Home Secretary have gone out of their way to insist the delay was not due to pressure from Wyan. When Howard eventually proposed last Thursday that Watkins should have the job, Straw consulted with Tony Blair before refusing to agree.

"What we objected to was not the individual concerned — he may be perfectly suitable for the job — but the process. If you are having consultation with the Opposition you don't suddenly present a name as a fait accompli," a source close to Straw said.

Even those normally supportive of Howard find it hard to justify his actions. They also insist that a repeat of this selection process, with all its attendant publicity, would be damaging and must be avoided, otherwise the best candidates will not put themselves

Sporborg joins title leaders

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

SIMON SPORBORG may not have been on many shortlists for the national men's championship but he is in contention as the season reaches the halfway stage. Hertfordshire-based Sporborg, 24, rode a double at the Cambridgeshire on Saturday to join Jamie Jukes and Tim Mitchell at the head of the table with 11 winners.

"We cannot believe our luck at the moment," Sporborg said. His point-to-point yard is very much a family effort. involving his father, Christo-pher, the trainer, and his mother, Lucinda. "We began the season with a team of ten horses, sold one, but the rest are all still going strong."

Over The Edge, a reliable 11year-old .. who likes firm ground, and five-year-old Borrow Mine were the winners on Saturday, although the oddson Shake Five let down his supporters.

Jukes was resting bruises incurred the previous week but Mitchell rode Strong

Chairman to win at the Mendip Farmers, creating the three-way tie at the top. Polly Curling was in double form at the same meeting, winning on Earthmover and Marion's Own to extend her lead in the women's championship.

Shirley Vickery's win on Front Cover took her score to ten, three behind Curling and one ahead of Alison Dare, who rode a double on Sam's Heritage and Danbury Lad at the Vale Of White Horse meeting.

Julian Pritchard was beaten on the odds-on Bishops Island at the VWH but Lets Twist Again, owned by a 24-strong syndicate called the Bean Člub, was an impressive winner for him in the restricted.

The most depressing sights of the day were two-runner open races at the Wilton, and a walkover for The Whip in the ladies' race at the Crawley & Horsham. Rain is badly needed as the sport approaches the busy Easter weekend

SATURDAY'S DETAILS

finad: 1, Horace (W Wales, 7-4), 2, Stake Five; 3, Smart Pal 3 ran, PPORA: 1, Dynamiap Dan (S Covell, 1-4 lan), 2, Dhune Chance, 2 ran Men's Open 1, Over The Edge (\$ Sporborg, 4-5 tay), 2, River Melody, 3, Cockstown Lad 5 ran, Ladlesr, Melady; 3, Cockstown Lad 5 ran. Ladles;
1, Dromm Leader (Mrss L. Rowe, 5-2), 2,
Severn Invadar; 3, Professor Loncher 4
ran. Rest: 1, Glenbrocken (Mrss A.
Embinicos, 3-1 law), 2, Glassington; 3,
Swift Reverd 8 ran. Open Mich. I: 1,
Borrow Mine. (S. Sporborg, 4-5 law); 2,
Armadeus; 3, Risoping Fielda. 3 ran. Open
Mich. II: 1, Andy Gawe (S. Cowell, 4-6 law); 2,
Larisem Spark, Only 2 finished. 4 ran.

Lariam Spark. Only 2 finshed. 4 ran
CRAWLEY & HORSHAM (Parham): Hunt.
1. Kates Castle J/ Vari Praegh, 4-5 tav), 2,
Bernigs Dasher, 3, Local Manor, 7 ranRast; 1, Biblo Beggins (A Hickman, 4-1), 2.
Royal Freworks; 3, July Schoon, 4 ran.
Ladles; 1, The Whip (Miss C Grissell)
wellad over Man's Open; 1, Young Nimrod (P O'Keele, 1-3 tav), 2, Pure Madmess
2 ran. Confined: 1, Monistori (Miss C
Holiday, Evens (av); 2, Sky Venture; 3, The
Portsoy Loon, 3 ran Open Main; 1, Vulgan
Pinnos (A Greig, 5-4 tav); 2, Grephuc
Dasegner; 3, Mollingarer, 7 ran
DUKE OF BUICCL EUCH'S (Fries Heuch):

Diagner; 3, Malingarer, 7 rain

DUKE OF BLICCLEUCH'S (Frees Haugh):
Hunt, 1, Nisky Night (Mass A Bowe, 1-4
law); 2, Threisaboutstrer; 3, Herry 9 nanReet; 1, Will Travel (A Robson, 5-1); 2,
Carsister Castler; 2, Whosgoisilysseme, 8
nan, 6 Minddeton Ladles; 1, Mussome
fran, 6 Minddeton Ladles; 1, Mussome
Mass P Robson, 2-1 law), 2, Across The
Card; 3, Very Evolent; 17 nan. Mar'a Openr
1, Hagar (M Bredburne, 8-4 law), 2,
Todorag; 3, Fiscal Policy, 6 nan. Contined:
1, Ersign Ewart (C Storey, 5-2 j-taw); 2, Bit
CY A Blisther; 3, in Demand, 11 nan. Meth. (Div.
Ir); 1, Physie (P Strang Steel, 50-1); 2, Blisch,
And Blues, 3, Red Hot Boogle 12 nan. Meth.
It., Peelinick (C Storey, 5-1); 2,
Newbrand; 3, Blueball Track; 13 nan.

HURWORTH (Hutton Rudoly), Hunt; 1, Not.

Newbranc; 3, Blueball Track, 13 ran
HJRWORTH (Hutton Rudby), Hunt; 1, Not
The Naciger (A Opden, 8-1); 2, Lynngo; 3,
Adia, 8 ron, Reet; 1, Cay Buz; (K Needhern,
12-1); 2, Carnen; 3, Mount Faber, 14 ran
Ladies, 1, Carole's Delight (Mis L Ward,
7-4 fae); 2, Kellys Damond; 3, Couce
Indernia 9 ran Land Rover Copen; 1,
General Brandy (G Yuer, 20-1); 2, Castle
Tyrint); 3, Gaelic, Warnor, 10 ran, Intermadiesier, 1, Generancum Lad (P Comionth,
9-2), 2, Mr Dock, 3, Boppung Gaie 8 ran
Open Mich (Div I pl. 1), Kendor, Pass (M
Talls, 9-4), 2, High Intake; 3, Meture April
10 ran, Open Mich (Div I pl. 1), Notarus
(Mis K Hergnewe, 4-1); 2, Say Deptine; 3,
Chummy's Last, 10 ran, Open Mich (Div I pl. 1), Tober Emby (G Seners, 8-4 (t-tav); 2,
Jupodens; 3, Ship The Buicker, 10 ran,
Open Mich (Div I per II), 1, Kilkaney Carr
(S Whasker, 5-2); 2, Smart Mover; 3,
Dunford Bridge 9 ran,

LAMIERTON (Kilvorthy): Hunt; 1, Anvil

LAMERTON (Kilvorthy): Hunt: 1, Anvil Comer (David Dennis: 25-1), 2, Catch The Cross, 3, The Lighy Ducking, 7 mm. Midn I: 1, Flying Mana (C Henard, 7-1); 2, Eserie De Come; 3, Westcountry Lad. 14 mm. Midn II: 1, Comedy Gayle (I Wildlagmbe, 6-1); 2, Mustc Of Mourne; 3, Cornib Heyen 14 ran. Ladies: 1, Secrat Four (Miss T Cave, 11-10 lav); 2, 10 maps; 3, Period Stranger.

7 ran Confined. 1. Kelbone (R Nutral), 84-lav); 2, Ficklers Filia, 3, Greenwer, 12 ran Men's Open' 1. Spring Marathon (L. Jefford, 4-6 lav); 2, Nearly Spiendid, Only 2 firestred 5 ran. Rest. 1. Mine's A Gin Miles J Currings, 7-1); 2, Ann's Ambalon; 3, Royal Turn. 16 ran Intermediater 1, Milled Cets (A Farrant, Evens tay), 2, Just Ben; 3, Kancleigh Boy; 3, Dark Reflection 9 ran.

Boy, 3. Biotenton Poscher, 9 ran.

MENDIP FARMERS (Castle Ot Comtont)

Hunt: 1. Double Thritisr (FI Traioggen, 1-6

tay), 2. Soriven Boy Only 2 finished: 4 ran

Open Mdn 1: 1. The Bold Abbot (Miss S

Weat, 6-1; 2. Mistay Man, 3. Fever Prich

12 ran Open Mdn II: 1, Jim Crow (P King,

12-1); 2. Rustic Lord, 3. Lindelighter, 9 ran

Lacties: 1, Earthmover (Miss P Curfang, 1-3

1sv); 2. Nuccase; 3. Life Peersge, 6 ran

Mon's Open: 1. Strong Chairman (T

Mitchell, 4-5 (ev); 2. Qualitair Memory, 3.

Southerly Busser, 5 ran Intermediate: 1.

Front Cover (Miss 5 Victory, Evens Lev); 2.

Highway Laid, 3. Basil Street, 7 ran. Rest, 1. Marion's Own (Miss P Curfing, 6-1); 2.

Kinselology, 3. Tamelino 8 ran.

Kinestology; 3, Tarrishing 8 ran.

VWH (Siddington) Hunt: 1. Diamond Wind (A Beedles, Evens tav); 2, Cavasiero; 3, Miss Magic 8 ran Confined 1. Darbury Led (Mes A Dere, 1-3 tav), 2, Anigrity Argus; 3, Tompet 8 ran, Men'is Open 1, Granville Gnit (J Deutsch, 5-1), 2, Fair Crossing; 3, Bishops Island 7 ran Leclies; 1, Sams Heritage (Miss A Dare, 4-6 Isiv), 2, Mountshannon, 3, Icky's Five, 5 ran Rest (Div I), 1, Court Bellos (P Howes, 9-4 I)-Lav); 2, Rusty Fetion; 3, Cool Rescal 10 ran. Melden 1, Members Cruss; (E Watter, 8-1, Lif fav), 2, Tome Choles; 4. Walter, 3-1 Li fay, 2, Torne Choice, 3, Uncle Bruce 10 ran Reet II 1, Lets Twist Agan (Julian Pritchard, 4-7 lay), 2, Tarry Awrities, 3, Colonel Faster, 10 ran Main (Div II): 1, Roeric's Chuldes (D Smith, 20-1); 2, Crown Jewel; 3, Jilly Wig, 7 ran

2, Crown Jewel; 3. Jily Wig. 7 ran
Will TON (Bacbury Rings): Hunt: 1, Magac
Mole (Miss M Hill, 9-4 g-lav), 2. Elegam
Sun; 3, Newman's Conguest: 4 ran Midn
1, Inner Sru (N Milchell, 6-4 tav), 2. Barlo
Castle; 3, Dancing Berefoot 6 ran, Men's
Open: 1, Myveryopodinend (S Cobden, 21); 2, Indigen Kinght, 2 ran Ladles: 1,
Spacial (Miss M Hill, 11-8), 2, Panda
Shandy, 2 ran, Rest: 1, Tulykinya Belis
(Miss D Stattord, 12-1); 2, Jacob Sun, 3,
Dule Of Lancaster, 5 ran, Confined: 1,
Alex Truscombe (P Shaw, 3-1); 2, Chism;
3, Stannihil 8 ran.

FIDEOM:

3.40 Fernáck

4.10 Quite A Men

2.18 SURANOM (nap) 2.40 Fawley Flyer 3.10 Finat Crack

4.40 Copper Coil Times Private Handicepper's top rating: 4.40 SAMMORELLO.

GOING: BOOD TO FIRM

2,10 officials movices hurble (£2,159; 2m) (7 runners) THE: 4-5 Suspen, 5-1 Worthy Mamphes, 7-1 Little Shellard, 8-1 Eurolink Shedow, Staff, 16-1 others

FORM FOCUS

LITTLE SHEFFORD these afters been Serim 2741 in 13-monther review humilican handle at Taureton (2m 11 good). 19 monther review humilican handle at Taureton (2m 11 good). 19 monther toward to firm) Jan 97. ELROCORK SHADOW SHADOW SI 2nd of 11 to Cushell hope in review humiling at 11 to 13 to Sheram Music in naview humiling handle at 12 to 13 to Sheram Music in naview humiling handle at 12 to 13 to Sheram Music in naview humiling handle at 12 to 13 to 13 to Sheram Music in naview humiling handle at 12 to 13
.40 MATIONAL RIDING WEEK NOVICES CHASE (£2,772: 3m) (5 runners) 13226 FAMASY R.VER 5 (BF.F.G.S) (D Chown) W S M Tumar 8-11-2 A Thomton (BF.G.S.P. PHILATELIC 5 (P Da Wicke) R Ainar 6-11-2 J Radition STOPMENIL WARROOK U Section J Statement 8-11-2 V Section 2-2-865 CAPITAR ARV 19 (Miss M Do Camoro) Mars A Hamil 8-10-11 S Wymns 30 00PQ-05 LAMSRING 25 (D McCan) D McCan 7-10-11 D Witch 85 ETTENS: 4-7 Family Payer, 5-1 Lumbrini, 6-1 Philippile, 7-1 Captive Bay, 20-1 Stormfell Warner.

FORM FOCUS

FAWLEY FLYER 61 2nd of 9 to Mr Staggie in novice handicap chaes at Banger (3m 110yd, good to novice chaese farm (3m 44, good to firm). Pres.A. TELIC best effort 191 3nd of 12 to Polifical Parto is involve chardle at Wincasten (2m 51, firm) May 95 (AAPTIVA BAY 57) 5n of 14 to Cartizo Gold in Selection: FAWLEY FLYER

SIS

3.10 CLIVE PAVELON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,159; 2m 5f 110yd) (5 numers)

35-P614 DRIAM BATTLE 35 (CD.F) (D. Chomn) W 6 M Turner 5-11-18 . A Thin 3-51263 CDLWALL 54 (CD.F) (Mrs Y Alexp) Mas: P Whatle 6-11-6 Mr H Thurster 28-423 FR67 CRACK 25 (CD.F.R.S) (D Puph) F Jurnar 12-11-1 ... S W POSP-50 BLATANT GUIRBUST 12 (P) (Guizetts French Mass S William 7-10-17 R Jush 5-4334P ONE MORE DBME 18 (J Mandrum) J Abedium 7-10-7 A Baile Long handcap: One More Dime 9-10

FORM FOCUS DRIUM BATTLE best aftert basi Tantara Lodge 71 in 8-nunner novice hundle over course and distance (good to firm) on penuliments start. Start. BLATANT GUTBURST 331 9th of 17 to SCUWALI. 1044 3rd of 21 to Mazele Express in Detumination in the process from the analysis of the Section of th

S 110yd. goods. 3.40 ANNUAL MEMBERS HANDICAP CHASE (\$2,746; 2m) (7 numers)

DEP-PS MONDAY CLUB 9 (CD.F.S.) () Total 7 Times (3-11-10). S Medical 8 (DD.F.S.) () Local 8 Ainer 7-10-13 ... W McFartand 112314 SUPER SHAPP 17 (D.F.S.) () Local 8 Ainer 7-10-13 ... W McFartand 112314 SUPER SHAPP 17 (D.F.S.) (8) S CENSES H (Dieser 8-10-12 ... Jacque (Dieser 9-10-12 ... Jacq Long bandicap. The Fence Stonian 5-10, Gunta Marke 6-40.

SETTING: 9-4 Monday Club. 3-1 Cookeen rice 7-2 Sizes Steep Financia, 6-1 Fichia, 20-1 The Finite Should TS-1 Ourses Maries

FORM FOCUS

MONDAY CLUB 51 2nd of 5 to Scottach Barnick in handicap chase at Herefood (2m good to 5mm) cool. TEBN HERO bear Purples Caraliar 6i in novice chase at Phumpton (2m, good to 5ch) on penultimate start. FBN-MCK 1-4) 2nd of 7 to Scotta Rocca in handicap chase at Phumpton (2m, good to 5ch) on penultimate start. SUPER SHARP best start beat chase at Herefood (2m stil) on penultimate start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scotta Rocca in handicap chase at bind-forecast (2m stil) on penultimate start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scotta in handicap chase at bind-forecast (2m stil) on penultimate start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scotta in handicap chase start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scotta in handicap chase start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scotta in handicap chase start. FBN-MCK (14) 2nd of 7 to Scottand Lad in handicap chase start.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS 182 150 135 127 100 100 9333556 6

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

nthas Scr-Agane term (F — tell P — V — ussextaid rider, B — brought — slipped op. R — retrain. D — . Horse's name, Cays since last lat. B — ablaters, V — visor. H — Epesheld. C — causse sinner. D — inner CD — course and distance. Gaing on which horse has soon # — firm, good to sell, hand). Owner of brackets. Trabus, Age and unight, Rider plos any allowance. The Times Plant Hardisapper 5 camp.

4.10 HUBHES CATERERS HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,759: 2m 41) (6 runners)

BETTIMO: 5-4 July Book, 3-4 Chair A Man., 5-1 Agen Ann., 6-1 Price Malch, 4-1 Applies, 25-7 Little Remity

CUSTE A MAN hand Headings the Boy SI in 18-namer inches issued for a SI State of the Extern River in armitistre handless from JOLLY BOAT 29% 2nd of 8 to Brogwen Lady on maximum chaice of Talastran (3an 110pd, good).

RYTON SUN 31 2nd of 4 to Teogyestelign in names. 4.40 RACEDAY STAFF HOVICES HA

(£2,190: 3m 2l 110yd) (5 runners)

BETTIME: 5-4 Copper Col., 3-1 Summertic, 4-1 Win I Did. 6-1 Fastini Gold, 12-1 Areas FORM FOCUS

COPPER COSt, basi often base Lough Tully 1941 in 10-asses divides dandlesp listshi ut Plumphin (Sm 170yd, agost is soft, Dec 96 WHY 100 about 2% 3rd of 5 to Salpointo in marten handle al Fosteoli

Mysics in novice handcap hardle at Transion (2m 11, pood) SAMMORELLO 71 2nd of 15 to Young Tess in nonce handcast hardle at Hanclard (3m 21 good to firm) with COPPER COIL (5th waste all) 131 3nd. Salicinos SAMMORELLO (3m St. genet). NASTIMA NUCLES about 9961 5th of 13 to Sharton

ENGREESPARK

2.20 Kingsdown Trix. 2.50 Here's To Howle. 3.20 Mendoza. 3.50 Sweet Supposin. 4.20 Rzwi. 4.50 Sharp Imp. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.50 SWEET SUPPOSIN (nap).

DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.20 CAMDEN ROAD SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £1,985: 1m 4f) (3 runners) 4651 MERROR FOUR SPORT 10 (6) M Johnston 9-7 ... IL Steet (7) 1 4614 KINGSDOWN TRIX 31 (C.6) G L Moore 9-5 Il Petram 3 02-4 TRACKS OF MY TEARS 24 W 6 M Turner 8-13 Il Sprake 2 5-4 Milyor Four Sport, 7-4 Kangsdown Trox, 5-2 Tracks Of My Takes

2.50 ST PIERS MEDIAN AUCTION STAKES (3-Y-D: £2,277: 1m) (5)

sums, 4-1 Hera's To Howle, 5-1 Juggler, 6-1 Farley Mount, 20-1 Master

3.20 LINCOLNS MEAD HANDICAP

5 5033 TALISMAN 23 5 Owr 8-7 A Daly (5) 8
7 DSS SOLAR DAWN 16 M Johnston 9-6 J Weaver 6
8 2244 ALVALDE 23 D Cosprove 8-5 J Quality 5 11 4 Baby Jane 7-2 Station Sourreign, 9-2 Marchiza, 5-1 Cashles Barning, 6-1 Talisman, 8-1 Solar Dawn, Afrika.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: 6 Levis, 18 winness from 74 numbers, 24 3%, Lord Huntingdon, 42 from 192, 21 9%, M Johnston, 48 from 255, 18.8%, D Marray-Smith, 13 from 76, 17.1%, R Boss, 7 from 43, 16.3%, MRs 6 sellentay, 21 from 133, 15.8%, 6 L Moore, 54 from 356, 15.2%; J sellentay, 21 from 133, 15.8%, 6 L Moore, 54 from 356, 15.2%; J Hills, 13 from 91, 14.3%. **DOKKEYS: 1 Delian, 74 minums from 270 rides, 27 4%, 0 Holland, 35 from 141, 24.8%; J Wester, 78 from 339, 23.0%, 5 Whatworth, 35 from 180, 19.4%; 0 Harrison, 32 from 236, 13.6%; Peal Eddery, 13 from 97, 13.4%; A Curbane, 6 from 45, 13.3%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Hexham: 3.30 Boston Man. Ludlow: 2.10 Nantzal



4.50 HOLLOW LANE HANDICAP (£3,518: 6f) (11)

3.50 HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEMISE HANDICAP (£4,269: 1m 2f) (10)

\$ 0.43 ETHBAAT 0 (F,8) M Hester-Eite 6-9-2
8 1350 OULET ARICH 11 (CD,6) W Mor 4-9-1 Date 0 Net 5
7 4500 ND SPECCHES 43 (CD,6) S Dow 6-9-0 A Daily (5) 5
8 1064 SWEET SUPPOSIN 9 (V,CD,6) C Dwyer 6-9-12
9 0-01 ROMAN REE. 11 (CD,F,G) E L Moore 6-8-10 Whitevoor 2
10 00-0 RIVER RUN 23 (B,D,F,G) R Hollmakess 5-7-10 F Lynch (3) 6

7-2 Rosson Reef 4-1 Robelton, 5-1 Talklain Bolle 6-1 Ethiolog 7-1 tyrscotte 8-1 Qual Arch, Sweet Supposit: 18-1 others

1 2401 BARBASON 25 (CD.6) G L Moore 5-9-E Candy Mores 3 2 2154 HAWAR STORM 30 (CD.8F.6 5) D Menck Danc 9-9-8 Kerry Baker (7) 6 3 5154 RAMI 20 (CD.8F.G) Mizs G Arthrapy 4-9-8 A Vitation (3) 1

3 5154 RAWI 20 (CO.SF.G) Mr.s G Netlende 4-9-6 A Yftesin Civil 4 4143 SPENCER'S REVENUE 11 (CD.F.G) P Buller 6-9-9 G Bordwell 8 34-5 BILLADDE 16 (C.S) R Boss 4-9-6 (C.S) R Date (C.S) R Date (C.S) R Date (C.S) R Perman 3-8-5 (C.S) Boss
3-1 Barbason, 7-2 Rawl. 4-1 Haras Storm 5-2 Cheval Pas. 7-4 Spencers. Revenge 8-1 Billaddie 18-1 offers

4.20 HARE LAME LIMITED STAKES

(£2,277: 7f) (9)

1 3212 SQUIPE CORRE 23 (CD.F.G.) D Chapman 5-10-6 A Cultume 10
2 1323 APOLLO RED 23 (CD.F.G.5) 6 L Mone 5-3-12 Cardy Morris 9
3 5-06 INTIAASN 11 (D.F.G.) D Hardin Junes 5-9-10
4 -533 WILL DO 10 IM Meade 4-5-5
5 205- WAYPOINT 103 (C.G.) R Fourtion 4-9-2
6 -311 ROFFEY SPINNEY 30 (CD.G.) R Fourtion 3-9-2
7 2104 SHARP IMPS 23 (R.D.F.G.) R Fourtion 3-9-2
8 500- WELLE NORTH 181 (G) G McCourt 4-9-16 R Sandhairte (7) 1
9 2862 ALJAZ 19 (D.G.S.) Miss 6 Kellingey 7-6-6
10 5251 NORY'S GRAB HIRE 11 (B.C.F.G.) a horn, 4-0-5
Marian Dayler (3) 3
14 153 AUSTIMARUS 11 (CD 5-5) J Bridger 5-7-10
A Bally (2) 3
4 1653 AUSTIMARUS 11 (CD 5-5) J Bridger 5-7-10
A Bally (2) 3

Go Ballistic backed

4-1 Roder Spiriter, 5-1 Squire Come Juny : Grat Hire 6-1 Apollo Red 7-1 Waypons 8-1 Starp Imp. Alpa: 18-1 others

Gold Cup, leapt to the top of the Martell Grand National betting yesterday. Ladbrokes and William Hill made Go Ballistic 8-1 favourite from 10-1 after John O'Shea, the gelding's trainer, had confirmed that he will go to Aintree, where he has been set to carry 9st 8lb. But Lord Gyllene continues to head

GO BALLISTIC, fourth in the Cheltenham the market with Coral and the Tote.

NATIONAL HUNT LEADERS

TRAINERS 151 38 75 55 75 61 59 47 51 38 46 45 41 28 **88555555** 46 14 -22 25 -31 29 -91 62 67 45

-15.16 -55.04 -75.77 -102.75 -17.18 -27.15 -27.15 -29.55 A P McCoy
J Osborne
R Dunwoody
A Magune
B Johnson
P Niver
A Dobbot
D Bridgwatts

HEXHAM

THUNDERER 2.00 Apollo's Daughter. 2.30 Southern Cross. 3.00 Jendee, 3.30 Enchanted Cottage. 4.00 Daring Past. 4.30 Duke Of Perth. 5.00 The Snow Burn.

269: 1m 21) (10)

269: 1m 21) (10)

1 000- KRISCLIFFE 170 (F) G Lents 4-18-9 . G Carter 4

3 2336 ROBELLION 11 (V.CD1, G) D Arbumot 6-9-5 D Homson 9

4 0153 TALLULAN BELLE (10, G) M Hearm-Elle 6-9-2

TO MARKAT 9 (F, M) M Hearm-Elle 6-9-2

TO MICH. 2009 (10)

A Day (5) 5

Lent 10

C Williams 12

C Williams TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 BUCHAMAN ALES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,312: 2m) (8 runners)

107 3331 SFALLFLSEFARES 18 (C.F.S.) 1 Lungo 9-11-18... 1 Januario (5) 87 102 FFSO HIGHLAND WAY 18 (CD.S.) M Toulinance 9-11-1 102 FF50 HIGHLAND WAY 18 (CB.6) IN Tellmant 9-11-1
103 343- FEFTY SUR 322P 40 F.G.5) In Ean 12-11-0 N Howerts (3) —
104 336 MISS GREENVARDS 111 (D.BF.F.5) A Walton F-10-11
105 483P COURT JOICE 19 (BF.6) If Almander 5-10-11 R RINGERIN 19
106 5-PD GALLARDIN 65 (D.6) B Profered 8-10-10 ... A Conte (7) 91
107 ULUZ DIAMOND BEACH 13 6 Norre 4-10-6 ... E Catalogue 5103 1061 APOLLO'S DAUGHTER 11 (CD.F.6) J Gauding 9-10-4 F.Lesby (2) 3-4 Domest Beach 5-2 Apollo : Doughter, 3-1 Balletzehile, 8-1 Mass Grant 10-1 Hightand Rioy 12-1 Court John 16-1 steets

2.30 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HUROLE (Qualifier \$2.917: 2m) (20)

9-4 Fantand Squie, 4-1 Seeleen Class, 6-1 Printe Example, 7-1 La Refera, 8-1 5ola Chienzal, 10-1 Domogula, 12-1 East-bille, 14-1 others

3.00 FEDERATION BREWERY AMATEUR RIDERS SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (\$2,357. 3m 1f) (13)

SELLING PARTULICAP CHASE (2Z,337, 301 TI) (1.5)

30: 5-P0 RUSTY BLADE 11 (6) P Morienta 8-12-0 . B Hole (5) (5)

30: 2800 FARRY PROP. 12 (N.F.E.5) H Oliver 12-11-13 . H H Oliver (7) 95:

30: 444P OVERWHELM 13 (6) V Thompson 9-11-6 . M Thompson (5) 92:

30: 4450 ROYE, MY 114 B Biscar 9-11-1 . H WROT (5) 93:

30: 32-6 ROYE, MY 114 B Biscar 9-11-1 . H WROT (5) 93:

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COURSE SPECIALISTS

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5.00 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN MATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,350: 2m) (21)

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SPEEDWAY

Wigg leads

Knights

to Star Cup

success

march on Friday night.

Lynn thus became the first

visiting team since 1994 to win

at the Panthers' Alwalton

Peterborough finished sec-

ond in the Premier League last

season and expected to figure

prominently in the Elite

eague championship race

this year, led by Jason Crump.

a British record signing from Poole for £35,000 last January.

In contrast, King's Lynn have

put together a side on a

shoestring budget, with a mix-ture of loan riders and foreign

assets recalled after the

club's year out of action in

Top scorer for the Knights at

the fast and narrow Peterbor-

ough circuit was Simon Wigg.

a former world championship

runner-up, who joined King's

Lynn two weeks ago on loan

Wigg, 36, scored 13 points,

despite racing with a broken rib suffered in practice at Oxford last Monday. To go to

Peterborough and win is bril-

liant, everyone is shocked about it," Wigg said.

about it, wigg said.
"I'm very pleasantly surprised. Everybody was jumping up and down about how well Peterborough were doing and we've been there and beaten them. I don't ihink any

of the supporters could believe

it because they had gone to Peterborough with no expecta-

tions. We were a very happy

Meanwhile, Coventry's im-

pressive start to the Speedway

Star Cup stuttered over the

weekend when they lost away

to Belle Vue on Friday night and were held to a draw at

home to Wolverhampton the

next evening. Low scoring from Shane Bowes and Simon

Cross, the second strings, left

the Bees struggling against a consistent Wolverhampton

team, but Greg Hancock, Cov-entry's top rider, continued his

Hancock, the world No 3.

has been beaten by an oppo-

nent just once in 20 races this

season — and that was when

he suffered carburettor trou-

ble against Swindon while

Bradford confirmed their

credentials as potential Elite

League pacesetters with a

comfortable 56-34 home vic-

tory over Swindon on Satur-

day. David Walsh, signed just

last week to fill the reserve slot

left after Todd Wiltshire was

refused a work permit, topped

NETBALL

the scorechart on his debut.

electric start to the season.

bunch.

from Bradford.

Sun shines down on bright lights of future

SCHOOLDAYS are widely held to be the best days and, for those lucky enough to be involved, schools' day at Twickenham on Saturday would certainly qualify as one of the better ones.

With relatively little happening elsewhere, schoolboy rugby was last week granted a small window in the season through which to shine. The Rosslyn Park sevens was as big and successful as ever, and on Saturday Twickenham hosted three of the main schoolboy fixtures of the season: the Daily Mail under-15 and under-18 schools cup finals, and the international between the England schools 18 Group and their counterparts from France.

Twickenham was abuzz. The cumulative noise was a couple of semi-tones higher than usual, but the enthusiasm was unbridled. Brilliant pockets of uniformed colour decorated the crowd of 20,000.

Sedbergh, which has produced players at every repre-sentative level of England rugby this season, has attracted some of Great Britain's hest schools to its ten-a-side tournament today and tomorrow. Durham, the beaten finalists in the Rosslyn Park sevens last week, join the likes of Liandovery and Edinburgh Academy for the competition, in the which the most successful team from each of the four pools goes forward to a separate competition.

as separate enclaves vied with each other during the two cup finals, before coming together for the international. "The girls in blue think the Kirkham XV are worth a try!" read one banner. The rugby thrilled. The sun shone. Schooldays sat fondly in the

memory. Yet, amid all the heady excitement, the benevolent gaze of those older and wiser issued forth from brows beginning to crease with concern. The game is now professional and that is already beginning to filter through to schools level. Scholarships are being set up and boys are Pearey, formerly president of the Rugby Football Union. now in charge of schools, is aware of the vital role that his

department now plays. "A lot of these boys understandably have stars in their eyes and hope that they will make hundreds of thousands of pounds in top-class rugby,"

BASKETBALL

ing one Budweiser League

get a bit tentative," he said after the Sharks had defeated

Worthing Bears 94-77. "Some-

times they have the habit of

looking like choirboys. They

are the types you would want

to marry your daughter or your sister. I would prefer

them to go into games with the attitude of I'll kick you in the

teeth and I will buy you a

No kicks in the teeth were

needed on Saturday, however,

when the Sharks recovered

from early arrears of 13-4 to

with 33 points and Todd

Cauthorn finished with 20.

James Hamilton top-scored

with 31 for the Bears, who

were handicapped by the rare

failure of Cleave Lewis, their

Newcastle Eagles virtually

secured a place in the play-offs

with their 86-76 win away to

Crystal Palace, while, at Der-

by, where a play-off spot was

at stake, the Storm gained a

98-95 success over Leicester

player/coach, to score.

Voisie Winters led Sheffield

stay among the leaders.

drink afterwards"."

post-Bosman era.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

make them realise that only a tiny minority will ever manage that and so a full and rounded education remains a priority for all of them."

Geoff Wappett, delighted after the England team that he coaches became the first this season to beat their French equivalents, 20-10, sounded similarly cautious notes. "It's very flattering for the boys, and their parents, too, when big clubs show interest, but I would like to see a code of practice established that would create order between clubs and the boys they are

interested in," he said. Wappett is concerned at the lack of a solid bridge between schools rugby and club rugby. and would like to see an intermediate league created involving the top schools and colt teams from the leading clubs. Pearey, meanwhile, sees a national "super league" the top schools as

The march of progress, then, is taking schools rugby with it. In my schooldays, not so long ago, there were no Gatorade bottles and shimmering shellsuits with school insignia emblazoned across them; not to mention the possibility of appearing at Twickenham in the final of a national competition.

This year the Gatoradeswigging finalists were RGS High Wycombe and Whitgift, in the juniors, and Coiston's Collegiate and Kirkham Grammar School in the seniors. High Wycombe, for whom Nick Duncombe, the captain and scrum half, caught the eye, became the first school to retain the junior title, while Colston's became the first school to win the senior event three times in a

was exhilarating but contained a healthy number of mistakes and imperfections. The unfettered exuberance of those playing and those watching provided a spectacle high in flair and adventure, adding weight to the view that schooldays are indeed the best



Lee Pointing, right, of Bootle High School, takes the contest to Louis Cadman, the King Harold School boxer

Refusing to throw in the towel in pursuit of former glory

Ivo Tennant on the fight by boxing to

n 50 years of the schools' national boxing champi-onships, not one fatality or serious injury has occurred. This, though, is the sport that has been expunged from the gymnasium through a concerted effort by headmasters, the British Medical Association, teacher training

say, too dangerous to have anything to do with the national curriculum Until now, perhaps. Who said this in support of bringing boxing back into the schools: "A number of chief constables hold the view that, if boys spent their evenings letting off steam in the gym, they would not be hitting old ladies over the head." Henry

colleges and even physical education experts. It is, they

Labour Minister for Sport, Tom Pendry. How politics has changed. It was certain Labour ministers and councillors who, in the 1960s, accelerated the decline of boxing in schools. A decade earlier, 53,000 boys between the ages of 12 and 18 attended the national champi-

Cooper? A backbench Tory

onships finals one year at Wembley. At Aston Villa Leisure Centre, Birmingham, where on Saturday the fiftieth anniversary tournament was held, this figure had plummet-

The age-group had been narrowed to 12-16 and the standard was mixed, but the enthusiasm ... "The point is that the disciplines of boxing you learn at school - a training routine, stamina, courage - can be transferred into later life," Dudley Savill, the general secretary of the Schools Amateur Boxing As-

cd to 624.

sociation (SABA), said. "The British Medical Assopaganda successfully, but has not come up with any evidence which sticks on the amateur side of the sport. I want to get a dialogue going. In a climate in which there is a great deal of bullying, boxing should be given an opportunity again. Had it been more

halt a drastic decline at schools level have had an effect on reduc-

> The majority of the boys who reached the finals on Saturday were from workingclass backgrounds. There has been no attempt to maintain boxing in independent schools." Simon Kemp. of Amateur Boxing News. said. That has affected the opportunities of talented boxers from poor backgrounds and brought the sport in universities to the point of extinction. Teacher training colleges, medical schools and the top independent boarding

ing crime figures.

resume boxing." bility of the Schools Commission, a newly formed subcommittee of the SABA. Its chairman is Jim Smart. who, headmaster Churchmead, a comprehen-

schools should be targeted to

sive in Datchet, introduced boxing four years ago. "Only one or two schools in the whole country box now, but, if we told children they would be doing so, they would run home to pick up as much gear as they could find," he said.

Twenty of Smart's 555 pupils box and five of them are (non-contact) girls. His alm is for 30 schools to take up the sport this year. "We have to start with non-contact boxing for il-year-olds upwards," he said. "All the boys wear up-todate headguards and we are looking at using heavier gloves. I am only prepared to have boxing at a school which has a properly qualified person in charge.

As for the boys, the pontifi-cating of politicians and the anxieties of their teachers merely washes over them. Alexander Gibbens, 13, who attends a comprehensive in Bognor Regis. concurred with Boxing Association divisional champion, that boxing makes for a less violent society. On Saturday he became the junior "A" champion. "Headguards?" he said. "I know they are supposed to protect you, but they narrow the target area. I don't think we should

tournaments will be held dur-

ing school holidays, bank

provide a cushion to allow

players to miss the odd event

if they have to and still have a

chance to qualify," Springate

He will also be staging two

invitational competitions for

girls with an upper handicap limit of 18, and it is hoped that

a tour will be launched for

The climax of the season

will be the tournament of

champions, in which the win-

ners of all 26 events on the

three tours will meet over 36

holes at Chart Hills on Nov-

ember 8 and 9. The winner

there, plus the winner of the

national tour, will receive

Nona, Florida, and also have

the opportunity to play some

competitive golf in the United

The winner of that season

ending tournament will finish

1997 having trodden the fair-

ways of some of the finest golf

courses in the United King-

dom - Open Championship

venues such as Turnberry.

Royal Birkdale and Royal

Lytham and St Annes are on

The winners of the 1996

tours - Karl Johnson, Martin

Lewis and Robert Oldaker -

have entered again, and John-

son will be the first JGT

champion to defend his title.

Several clubs have multiple

entries, and Camberley Heath, which has five, in-

cludes the 17-year-old twins,

Ben and Grant Willman. The

brothers are into filial togeth-

erness right down to their

handicaps - they both play

the national tour rota.

them next year.

holidays and weekends.

have them."

designed to bring a mile to the



a leading role in elec-tion campaigns, with of the credit for the country's paign has kicked off in familiar fashion with the main party leaders desperate to grab photo-opportunities with leading figures in sport.

The chances of any of the parties including some senous proposals in their manifestos to help develop the minimal. Yet sport is more than a niche activity in the country. The Sports Council estimates that there are around 28 million regular participants in sports, supporting an industry that employs 450,000 people and raises several billion pounds in taxes. Add to that the millions who enjoy sport from the comfort of their armchairs and you have an instant that constituency politicians should find hard to resist.

The Times has got together with Richard Baldwin, a tax partner at Deloitte and Touche accountants, and the Central Council of Physical Recreation to produce its own manifesto for sport. The measures are reasonably simple and can all be achieved at no great cost, the tax measures are costed at little more than £100 million. Not only would they raise the country's sporting reputation, but also, with more leading events and participants at all levels, they could end up actually increasing the money that the Gov-ernment receives from sportrelated activities.

☐ Tax: A few simple tax changes would make a real difference to the country's ability to bid for top sporting events. Euro 96 was a genu-inely successful tournamers. raising more than £60 million for the Government, but other countries offer a more favourable VAT rate that may tempt future tournaments elsewhere. Reducing VAT on admissions would have saved the Euro 96 organisers around £5 million.

International sporting bodies and international events are also subject to corporation tax. Creating a more taxfriendly environment, by making corporation tax payments more coherent or even abolishing tax for sporting organisations, as in Australia. would make the United Kingdom more competitive. ☐ Charity: Local sports clubs

are mostly run by volunteers on a non-profit basis. Yet, unlike the neighbouring amateur dramatics clubs, local sports clubs are not regarded as charities. Granting the clubs charitable status would enable them to become exempt from corporation tax on fund-raising and sponsorship income. The clubs would also be eligible for relief from business rates.

☐ Lottery: The lottery levy could be reduced from 12 per cent and some of the money channelled to assist youth sport, while unclaimed prizemoney could also be given to charity rather than returned to the prize pool. Sporting organisations have greatly benefited from lottery grants but there are a few changes to the procedure which would improve the system, including a simplified application pro-cedure for small grants.

☐ Europe: Sport has always been vital to Europe with clubs competing across the Continent long before the establishment of the EU, but there is no reference to sport in the Maastricht Treaty. Adding sport to the treaty would not only recognise its importance to the EU nations but also would allow leading sporting bodies to advise Europe on the consequences of new legislation for sport. Playing fields: There has been some recent action to try to stem the sell-off of playing fields, but the greatest help

would be the repeal of regulations that encourage local authorities to dispose of their sites. Once recreation facilities are lost, they cannot be replaced, so obliging local authorites to research strategies for the future of playing fields should also help to ensure that sufficient playing fields exist for the next

ALASDAIR MURRAY

Young golfers prepare for Tour de Force amateur competitions and

generally available, it could

best 216 players to compete on

Home-bred Sharks lack THE deadline has passed, and the line-ups for the Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour aggression UGT), being run in associ-ation with The Times, have By Nicholas Harling been settled. There were more than 1,000 applications to join THE sight of four full Engthe tour and the huge entry land internationals representhas been distilled down to the

club is an usual one in this the three tours that will comprise the tournament. Between them, Roger Hug-It has not been easy for Colin Springate, the tournagins, Michael Payne, Ian Mckeeney and Jason Swaine ment director, to send a have contributed much to keep rejection slip to the hundreds Sheffield Sharks in contention of unlucky ones, but he can gain one consolation - the fact that he has had to for the title, but Jim Brandon, their American coach, would love it if they showed a touch disappoint so many players is more aggression.
"Some of the England guys an indicator of the popularity

of the competition. The Daihatsu tour has been created to give added impetus to the pioneering work put in over the past three years by Springate, an unassuming and enthusiastic chartered surveyor from Kent.

The tour is the progeny of a tournament that Springate inaugurated in 1994 in response to the difficulty being experienced by his son, Daniel, in getting enough competi-

Daniel, then an eighthandicapper, found that as a member of a club with no organised junior section, he was getting little chance to compete against other players of a similar standard.

Springate Jr was between the devil and the deep blue sea - either getting beaten by contemporaries, who, for a variety of reasons, had unrealistically high handicaps, or finding himself just short of the standard required for selection for county teams and some of the stronger competitions. For Daniel and his

peers, good and improving players that they were, the competitive outlook was not a rosy one.
Springate looked into his

son's complaints and, having found them justified, responded by launching a tour for the best juniors in Kent. It was such a success that it expanded in 1995 and grew further in 1996. Now, with the involvement of Daihatsu, it is to take its biggest step forward yet. Springate was a part-time tournament director in the first three years, but has now been able to take on the job full-time.

There will be three tours national, southern and northern, each of which will be contested by 72 players. The national circuit will comprise the best of the 1,000-plus entries, while the regional tours are designed to become feeders for the elite national competition. Even before the first ball is struck, the compe-



THE TIMES

next year Midland and Scottish tours will be added to the Patron of the organisation

David Leadbetter, who has become probably the bestknown golf coach in the world since he rebuilt Nick Faldo's swing in the mid-Eighties. is characteristically playing a low-profile role in the tours, but his support has been of key importance to the success of Springate's branchild.

He became interested in Springate's scheme in the early days, when a Kent tour event went to Chart Hills, the European headquarters of Leadbetter's global teaching academies. He and Springate chatted and, before long, Leadbetter had become actively involved in the scheme.

His support has been vital." Springate said. "He rings me regularly and we talk things over. He could not have given us more encouragement than he has. He is totally committed to the competition, and we think we're very lucky to have him with

There will be eight tournaments in both the northern and southern sections with players having to play in a minimum of six events, and coaching at Leadbetter's world headquarters at Lake ten in the national competition with a minimum commitment of seven appearances to produce end-of-season orders of merit. Dates have been States.

tition is set for expansion chosen to avoid the leading ADRIAN SHERRATT

Ben Willman drives off at Camberley Heath watched by Grant, his twin brother

No fuss as **England** "We felt it was important to prevail

BY A CORRESPONDENT

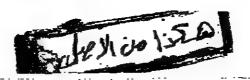
WHEN, on Friday afternoon, the Chelsea football team strode into Heathrow for a flight to Teesside, they were treated like royalty. In contrast, the England women's netball squad, bound for Belfast, were almost unnoticed.

Yet, while Chelsea lost their FA Carling Premiership match away to Middlesbrough, England prevailed 71-40 against Northern Ireland. Ironically, the England team included interchangeable goal attack and goal shooter — Tracey Neville, the sister of Gary and Phil, the Manchester United defenders. and Tracy Bartram, the wife of the Arsenal reserve goal-

Neville and Bartram each averaged shooting ratios of more than 80 per cent, but readily acknowledged the part played by Amanda Newton, who made some significant interceptions as a substitute goalkeeper. England fielded a mixture of under-21 and senior players. One newcomer, Olivia Murphy, impressed at centre.

The England Under-18 team enjoyed a similarly comprehensive victory over Northern Ireland, 62-31. Karen Gregg and Louise Moore excelled in the England attack, achieving strike rates of more than 80

Scotland received a fright in Manchester on Saturday when they defeated Guernsey 34-29 after trailing with five



CRICKET: CRONJE PUNISHES AUSTRALIA'S ATTACK AFTER MCGRATH TIRES

Fast bowlers maintain South Africa's control

FROM JACK BANNISTER IN CENTURION

JH 24 1959

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CENTURION PARK (third day of five): Australia, with six second-innings wickets in hand, are 61 runs behind South Africa.

ALTHOUGH the Waugh twins took a little of the gloss from South Africa's best day of the series with a fourth-wicket partnership of 66 yesterday, a home victory now looks certain. As against West Indies earlier this year, Australia, having won the series, have been outplayed in the final Test. At 96 for four, they are still 61 behind.

Their last chance of leaving their hosts a sizeable fourthinnings target may well have disappeared when, just before the close, Mark Waugh was bowled via the inside edge by Pat Symcox, the off spinner, when attempting a cover

The Waughs had come to-gether at 28 for three with South Africa's grip on the match close to a stranglehold after the fall of Mark Taylor and the two Matthews, Hayden and Elliott. The bounce

was fearsome, especially from the pavilion end, but the Waughs somehow weathered the storm to claw back a little lost ground.

Australia had looked like getting right back into the game in the first 85 minutes of the day when Glen McGrath took three of the first four wickets to fall for only 22 runs. Symcox, the nightwatchman, was first to go, trying for a third successive four off Jason Gillespie. Jacques Kallis could only fend a brute of a delivery to Steve Waugh in the gully before Adam Bacher, having

added only two singles from

McGrath for 96, an innings

that had occupied 712 hours. Richardson was out second ball, bowled rather unluckily as the ball rebounded from body to stumps and, at 262 for seven, South Africa were only 35 ahead.

It was then that the lack of a third pace bowler proved costly for Australia. McGrath, having bowled a marvellous spell of 14-8-23-3 in the morning session, was powerless to stop Lance Klusener and Hansie Cronje from adding 68 in 16 overs. Michael Bevan was hit out of the attack and

SCOREBOARD FROM CENTURION

ALISTRALIA: First knnings 227 (S.R. Whaugh 67: B.N. Schultz 4 for 52)

Taylor c Richardson b Don ayden low b Schultz Extras (Ib 1, w 3, nb 9)

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-10, 3-28, 4-94. BOWLING Donald 10-1-25-2; Schult: 9-2-23-1; Klusener 9-1-22-0; Sympox 4-1-12-1;

SOUTH APPLICA: First Innings

B M McMillan e Hsyden b M E Waugh.
D J Collinan b McGrath
P I Symbox c Blewelt b Gillespile
J H Natils c S R Waugh b McGrath
"W J Conje not out
D J Rohardson b McGrath
L Klusener b Gillespile
A A Donald c Healy b Gillespile
B N Schultz c Healy b McGrath

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-128, 3-229, 4-252, 5-256, 6-262, 7-262, 8-330, 9-367 BOWLING: McGrath 4D 4-15-86-6, Gillespie 31-13-75-3; Blewett 5-0-19-0; Warne 36-11-89-0 Bevan 15-3-54-0, M E Waugh 7-1-34-1

worst Test figures since 1992. Gillespie came back to bowl Klusener, but Cronje crashed 42 of the 52 runs added for the last two wickets and in the course of his unbeaten 79 became the first South African to pass 2,000 Test runs since

his country's readmission to

international cricket. Australia needed a good start, but lost three wickets in the first 13 overs. Hayden's big stride forward failed to save him when Schultz appealed for leg-before. He is one of three players going home before the one-day series -Elliott and Justin Langer are the others - and he may have walked out of international cricket in unlucky fashion.

Taylor got a good one from Donald, Richardson taking the catch, while Elliott, having left a gap between bat and pad, also fell to Donald, an inside edge going on to hit the middle stump.

South Africa were thus able to ram home the advantage won on Saturday, when Bacher and Brian McMillan built a solid platform with their second-wicket partner-

Stormy test in store for ICC teams

FROM DAVID TOWNSEND IN KUALA LUMPUR

A THUNDERSTORM that disrupted the official opening of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Trophy in Malaysia gave an early warning that this World Cup qualifying tournament is at the mercy of the weather.

Kenya, Bangladesh, Holland and a handful of other contenders for the three tickets to the finals in England in 1999 are worried that unpredictable afternoon showers in Kuala Lumpur could have a hand in

All- the 50-over matches before the semi-finals are scheduled for one day only and the next couple of weeks could prove an extended test of rules for rain-interrupted matches. Malaysian grounds do drain very quickly, so, if the rain comes early unugh, a new target will be set for the chasing team. If 20 overs of the second innings cannot be played, however, the points

will be shared. At the last ICC Trophy. in Kenya, there were no such

rules, but, with two days to complete games, only one match was lost to rain despite a six-week drought breaking on the eve of the tournament. If rain does not stop play, then most teams, it seems, can point to other areas of concern:

the intense heat and humidity will prevent anyone from bowling much more than a five-over spell, the matting wickets will be too slow or variable, and the outfields impossible for fielders.

Only Ireland have adopted a wholly positive approach with Mike Hendrick, their coach, informing his enthusiastic and very fit team: "If you tell yourself you cannot bowl five overs, you won't."

Ireland, who are drawn in the same opening group as Kenya, need to beat a strong United States team to ensure their passage into the last eight. After winning the triple crown and European championship in 1996, they are

PRELIMINARY ROUND GROUPS: Group A: Kenya, United States, Ireland, Geraliar, Singspore, Javaet, Group B: Bengledesh, United Armo Emirates, Masyan, Disminsk, West Aince, Argentine, Group C: Holland, Canada, Namina, Fill, East and Cantral Airica Group D: Bermude, Scotland, Hong Kong, Papus New Gurned, Italy Rong, Papula New Guines, may SECOND ROUND GROUPS: Group E: Group A winners, group C numera-up Group 8 numera-up, group C numera-up Group P: Group B winners, group C numera-up, group A numera-up, group D numera-up. FDTURES: Today: Barmuda v Italy: Masayata v Denmark; Hotland v East and Africa; treisind v Gibratier, Kernya v Israel, Tornorrow, Holland v Marrubie; United Stasse: v Gibratier, Maleysia v Argentina; Canada v Rit, Berngladesh v West Airica, Kernya v Singapore, Bernyuda v Hong Kong; Scotlend v Papua New Gursee Mer

ACC TROPHY 1997

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v Namiou May 37: United Strone v Indiana;
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Singapore, Bermuda v Papua New GunnarNamibau v East and Central Africa: Hong
Kong v Italy; Hoffend v Fiji; Malaysau v West
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Denmark v West Africa: Kenya v United
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Spotland; UAE v Argentina; Iraliand Singapore Apr 1: Second round matthes begin

SEMI-FINALS: April 6 and 8

confident, but would have preferred to swop places with Scotland, who are in the easiest of the opening groups with Bermuda, Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea and Italy.

Scotland have not enjoyed their first week in the Malay sian capital, losing all their warm-up matches and clearly missing George Reifer, the injured all-rounder Holland will expect to re-

book their place in the World Cup along with Kenya, but the United Arab Emirates, the defending champions, have suffered from a change in the ICC residential qualification rule that now insists on seven "native-born" or "residing citizens" in every team. Without all their imports from the subcontinent, they might struggle to get past the opening round. ☐ A meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday agreed to set up a three-year rotating presidency for the ICC. A nominee from India will replace Sir Clyde Walcott, the outgoing chairman, after the annual conference in June, to be followed by an Australian in



Cambridge, far side, start to increase the tempo in the women's Boat Race yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Cambridge women show sixth sense

ROWING CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE stretched their run of success in the women's Boat Race to six yesterday. Stroked by Kat Astley, Cambridge led from the start and, despite settling at a slightly lower rate, slowly developed a 14-length lead over the 2,000metre Henley course to record their 35th win. For Sarah Winckless, their president, it brought a third Boat Race

Oxford's overail tally remains at 17, despite having changed their coaching team

last win, in 1991. In contrast, Cambridge have remained with their linchpins, Roger Silk and Ron Needs, who are always looking for improvement, even immediately after winning. "We will go harder next year," Needs said. "Every year we look back and say what we can do better. We get better organised every year. That is why we keep winning." Oxford's new young coaching team, all Great Britain

internationals, were unhappy to lose again, but at least there was a narrowing of the gap. With Ben Hunt-Davis, a

pic eight and their chief coach, the Oxford boat fought all the way and, although Cambridge repeated their 1996 success in the reserve race and the women's lightweight contest, both were closely-fought.

Blondie, the Cambridge reserves, looked set for a comfortable win at halfway, but Osiris, coached by Matthew Pinsent, who was guest of honour for the day, came back to a quarter of a length at the line, leaving Pinsent happy with his protegés.

Oxford's lightweight women, coached by Dot

Britain women's Olympic eight, led to halfway, but Cambridge came through for a canvas win. Roger Silk, their coach, said: "The lifts down the second half all worked. That's how I expected it to go."

As in 1996, Oxford's lightweight men were the university's only winners of the day, although this year it was not on a disqualification, as in

Interestingly, the Oxford lightweight men have stuck with the same coaching team. led by Chris Jones, since 1993. and have won three times.

HOCKEY: NO ROOM AT THE TOP AS SLOUGH TURN UP THE TITLE PRESSURE

Smith hat-trick puts paid to Trojans

THE competition at the top of the women's premier division continued to intensify as Slough made sure that they stayed in the title hunt by completing a weekend double to move within one point of Inswich, the leaders.

A 4-1 win over Sutton Coldfield on Saturday and another three points after a win by the same scoreline against Troians has ensured that the final outcome will be decided in the last two matches of the season.

Jane Smith, the England forward, struck twice in the first half to give Slough a 2-0 lead over Trojans. Although

Monita Suter hit back, Smith. completing her hat-trick, and Karen Brown, with a goal in the 43rd minute, gave Slough the points. Clifton, three points adrift of

Slough in third place, remain in contention for their first league honours. Tammy Miller gave them a fourteenthminute lead against Trojans and Louise Hipkins added the second for a 2-0 victory.

At the other end of the table, Hightown, the champions, their relegation lears when Maggie Souyave and Julie Aspin scored in their 2-1 defeat of Doncaster. However, with only five points separating the bottom five clubs, the fight is still on for survival in the top flight.

One issue was definitely resolved when unbeaten Loughborough Students secured their promotion to the first division with a 3-1 win over Exmouth, thanks to two goals from Fiona Greenham and a third by Kate Thomas.

England had something to savour when Russell Garcia. their captain, received the best player award at the livetournament in Karachi, which ended yesterday. Germany won the gold medal, with Holland taking silver and Pakistan bronze. England, who finished last in the pool series, ended their tour on a winning note, beating a young Pakistani XI 3-0 in an exhibition match.

In the final, Germany proved too strong for Holland, the Olympic champions, to complete a 3-1 victory. Holland, depleted by injuries. went ahead through Eikleboom, but Streich equalised for Germany and then Domke finally made the match safe for Germany in the

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY FOOTBALL Auck-off 7 30 unless stated FA Carling Premierahip Spaiding Cup Semi-final, second leg

Kuddemwister (2) v Famborough (2) (7 46) UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: hyde v Gufreley.

COS LEAGUE: Premier division: Degenham and Redondge v Aylesbury (7.45)
SCHEWFIX. DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Westbury v Chopperham ESSIX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division. Ifford v Brentwood.

AVON PREMIADO COMBINATION: First division: Swarese v Bristol Rovers (2.0), Swincon v Milliwell (2.0), Totalmiam v Chelses (al S) Albaris FC).

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed. Stoke v Notengham Forest. First division: Leosster v Wolverhampton (7.0) Second division: Shrewsbury v Bractord (7.0) Stockport v Hull (al Witton Albon FC 6.45). Leegue Cup: Quarter-

finaler, Hucklersfield v Walsali (7.0); York v Wesham (7.0), FA YOUTH CUP: Pith round: Stackburn v Norwich

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: All-ster geme (as Shelfles Arena, 7 30) RACING: Lingheld Park (AW, 2 20), Herhem (2 0); Ludlow (2 10)

(2 0): Ludiow (2 10)
SNOOKER: Embassy world championishs
final qualifiers (at Telford)
SPEEDWAY: Speedway Star Cup: Wolver-hemptor v Swindor (7 30) Individual
Richard Green benefit (at Eurier, 7 30) TOMORROW **RUGBY UNION** CLUB MATCH: Bath v Army (7.15)

OTHER SPORT BOXING: Commonwealth cruiserweight championatho: Chris Okoh (Crordon, hotder) v Derzei Browne (Leode) (at Lewisham Theatre Cational (2.35), Sendown Pari (2.35), Southwell (2.35) IL 19), Southwen (2 25) SNOOKER: Embessy world championship final qualifiers (al Tellord) SPEEDWAY: East Coast Cup: Hull v

RUGBY UNION
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Fourth division north: Nuceator v Viorcester 7 30: CLUB MATCHES: Lydney v Royal Flaw, (7 0), Mozeley v RAF (7 30)

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser Leeguer Man-chester V London (7.0) Nencasile v Bermigham (7.30) Lecesse v Northing (8.0), Crystal Palace V Thames Valley (8.0) RACING: Cattend Bridge (2.20) Folke-stone (2.10) Associ (2.0) SPEEDWAY: Challenge Long Eaton Stoke (7-45) Signe (7-45) SQUASH: Women's international match: England v Australia (a) Chingloid) Super Senes finals (a) Haffield)

THURSDAY RUGBY UNION

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McDowali (Rentrew) (at Moranch Scons
Valence) (Maccowskii (Manifelly) (at Norarch Spons Vidage) RACING, Legister (2:10) Linglieto Park (AW 2:30) Mussettungh (2:20) SWOOKER Brash Open (at Plymoun Pavilions)

RUGBY UNION COURAGE CLURS CHAMPIONSHIP Fourth division south Memour, y Tabado

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Essox (3:0) Premier League Challenge
Onlong v. Reading (7:30) Shelhela v. Long
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Fourth division north: Appetita v
Birmingham Solinul, Haseloid v Nendel,
Sandar v Lichfeld Solve-on-Trent v
Marchester Stoutbridge v Presion Grasshoppers Fourth division south: Askean's v
High Wycombic Chetenham v Barking,
Heine; v Weston-super-Mare, North
Walsham v Berry Hit Plymouth v Charlton
Park
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- Bridgend (2-30), Newtondon v Newton
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Pompovad (2-30), Newtondon v Newton
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Paymons: SPEEDWAY! Elde League: Covernry v East-bunk (7:30) Speedway Star Cup: Brazaro v Wolee/hampton (7:30), Swingon Belle (7:00) Premier League Challenge: Berand v Newtastle (7:0), Stol. 2, Long Eaton (7:30).

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SUNDAY RUGBY UNION COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP First division: Seracers v West Hardepoo

RUGBY LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION: Samoon v Keighley (3.0). OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budinesser League: Chester , Berningham to 0) Shelbelo v Thames Valey (6:30) London v Chistal Palace (6:0). Leopards , Derby (6:0) HOCKEY Men's European Cup Winners' Cup (at Plyacong) SNOOKER Birlish Open (at Plymout)

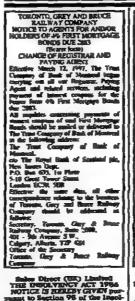
This week's football, page 30

**3,:00°5; SPEDWAY, Speedway Star Cup: East-burne : Poice /330* Premier Langue Challenge Glasspa : Edinburgh (6.30) Newcords : Bannot /630;

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES



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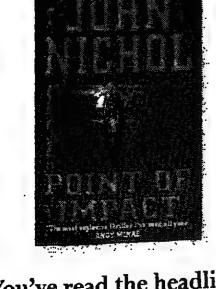
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Public Notice MERCHANT SHIPPING (ACCIDENT REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION)

REGULATIONS 1994 Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to regulation 6(4) of the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation 1994, the Chief Inspector of Manine Accidents has ordered an Inspector's inquiry into the loss of the fishing vessel GORAH LASS (SE 94) with three fatalities on 11 March 1997 off the north coast of Comwall.

Any persons who desire to make representations to the inspector which would assist him in determining the circumstances and causes of the accident should write to the inspector at the following address. to later than 14 days from the date of publication of this Notice: Marine Accident Investigation Branch Department of Transport 5/7 Brunswick Place Southempton, Hampshire S015 2AN





'Brilliant - you can smell the

hot oil, the sweat and the fear'

DAILY TELEGRAPH

You've read the headlines Now read the thriller

STEORYKIN THE GROU

THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA



James Henderson previews one of the greatest international canoe races: 125 miles from Devizes to London

All the way on paddle power

nised and exhausted faces in the Boat Race crews this coming Saturday, at the end of their four miles from Putney to Mortlake, spare a thought for the crews of canoeists who will be arriving in London from the other direction. They have come all the way from Devizes, Wiltshire, 125 miles away, on one of the world's longest and most arduous canceing races.

The Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race, takes place each Easter weekend and 1997 is its Golden Jubilee. Up to 400 boats, from as far away as Denmark, Malta, the United States and Pakistan, will be taking part.

The event starts before dawn on Good Friday at the wharf in Devizes. Competitors paddle the length of the Kennet & Avon Canal to Reading, where they will join the Thames and paddle down to London, finishing at West-

minster Bridge.
"There's nothing quite like
the DW," Steve Harris, who partners Ivan Lawler as the reigning world doubles marathon cance champion, and who has competed in the event in the past, says. Their longest race on the international circuit is 26 miles long. The DW is five times that.

"It's so long and arduous, Harris says, "that it scares off a lot of the elite paddlers because it could put them out for the rest of the season."

Instead, the DW is mainly an amateur chailenge, but there is no shortage of people prepared to drive themselves to the point of physical collapse in their efforts to compiete it. And as if the canoeing is not enough, there are locks to contend with: 77 of them. Paddlers have to "portage" around them; they get out, pick up their canoe, and walk. or run, around the lock, put the boat back in and cast off as quickly as they can.
It sounds difficult, but one

competitor admitted: "Actually, portages are not that bad. They get the circulation in legs going again."

The race, which has taken on a style of true derring-do and adventure, was conceived in a pub as a bet in the 1930s, when a group of friends wagered that they could take a skiff from Pewsey in Wiltshire to Mudeford near Christchurch, Dorset, in less than three days, which they did. The challenge was resurrected over the current route in the

THE easiest and safest introduction

to canoeing is through a club or a

For general advice and a list of

contact the BCU in Nottingham (tel:

Annual BCU membership costs

The BCU can provide leaflets with

the dates and prices of introductory

Club membership varies, but can

cost around £45 for a club that bas

courses. Basic weekend

canoes available (buying is

£16.50 for adults and £10 for under-18s.

introductory courses start at about £60.

expensive). Some clubs also hold open

clubs affiliated to British Canoe Union.

thousands of these around the

training centre. There are

country.

0115-982 1100).



late 1940s and canoeists joined them in 1948. The race has

been staged annually ever

There are four classes within the DW and up to 60 trophies in all: for different categories and styles of canoe. Three classes — the junior doubles, senior singles and the veteran/junior combination — are run in daily "stages" over the Easter weekend. Paddlers race about 35 miles on each of the first three days. Then, on Easter Monday at 8.30am there will be a mass start at Ham, and 120 boats will ride the last 17 miles of the course downstream, reaching Westminster Bridge by about ten

The fourth class is the senior doubles, an innocent-sounding name for what turns out to be an unearthly, gruelling slog lasting between 16 and 24 hours without a break. This

'The bones ache, the brain plays tricks. Only strength of personality will get you through it'

event is paddled "straight through"; no time is allotted for rest or food. About half of the total entrants will be in this class and quite a few of those

will not make it. It is a truly tough event. Apart from the sheer length, which makes it so exhausting. there is the unpredictable weather (particularly this year because Easter is so early). Competitors can find themselves paddling in a T-shirt during the day if it is sunny and then a few hours later it can be freezing. The worst moment

seems to come about an hour before dawn, when it is coldest and teams have been paddling

through the night in the dark. Tamsin Phipps, who has paddled the race eight times in the past ten years and has won the women's event once and the mixed event another year, says: "That's when the bones are aching and the brain starts playing tricks. It is only strength of personality that

gets you through."

It's true. It takes a certain mind-set to keep going and going, thoughts fixed on the next portage, without letting the cold, hunger and discomfort turn to doubt. There is a saying that competitors take their brain out in Devizes and get it

back at Westminster. Finally, the race throws in one more challenge. It is vital to catch the outgoing tide in the final stretch from Teddington Lock because it is impossible to paddle against the flow. Competitors choose their own start times in order to arrive there at high tide. Just imagine the disappointment of having to wait for six hours on the riverbank.

As well as entries from clubs, there is a long Services tradition in the DW. The Royal Engineers and Marines always enter and often so do the Police and RAF. There have been some well-known competitors in past years — among them Robin Knox-Johnston and Chay Blyth but the best-known alumnus of the race is Paddy Ashdown. the Liberal Democrats leader, who competed in the 1965 race while he was in the Marines, winning his class for the year. He is reputed to have said that he knows of only one person in history who had a more miserable Easter. It is a long haul to Westminster, however you

So why do these people do it? Why do they put themselves through such cold, wet misery. and for so long, for no obvious material gain?

For men like Harris and Lawler, there is the potential prestige of breaking the record, but for most people the answer lies in the challenge, and there are as many answers as there are people. Some want to beat their time

from last year, others want to beat their father's time from 20 years before. Others are raising money for charity. Many competitors simply want to finish — in itself a huge accom-

For all the agony and ex-haustion, the feelings of pain

Passing a lock: like the repetitious paddling, hard work, but great for restoring the circulation in the legs

days and introductory evenings free

Such events will introduce you to

the sport and enable you to choose a

sprints and marathons on flat-water,

discipline, which in addition to the

are as varied as slalom, wildwater

(trick canoeing) and even canoe-

If you continue with the sport,

and equipment, such as windproof

If you want to enter the Devizes

to Westminster race, it would be a

good idea to start training soon for

on the water during the summer

next Easter. At least make sure to get

you will want to buy your own clothes

surfing and canoe-sailing.

jacket and buoyancy aid.

(like downhill), sea kayaking, rodeo

or at minimal charge.



Near Pewsey, Wiltshire, in the Devizes-Westminster canoe race, a competition that started as a pub bet in the 1930s and is now an international event

fade fairly quickly after you have finished and you're warm and dry. The memories remain, though, and they give that irreplaceable and immense feeling that every longdistance sports person knows. The feeling of a challenge taken on and won.



By Robert Shrehan, bridge correspondent

This is an amusing incident (not so amusing for West) from the BBI. Premier League match between Price and Ash

	3 C (2)	Pass 4 S Species by South	2 H (1) All Page	25	
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Į	Dala West	Gan	e all	LMP	'n

(1) Showing a weak hand with

at least five-four in hearts and a minor. (2) To play in part-David Mossop ducked the

ner's minor first heart, won the second and drew two rounds of trumps, West discarding the queen of clubs. Nothing wrong with that — signalling with the top of a sequence when you can afford it is one of the best ways of briefing partner about the hand. Had East held A 762 in clubs, he would have been grateful to learn that he should rise with the ace when declarer played a club from

Things went wrong for West when Mossop got off lead with

a diamond. The defence should have arranged for East to win this trick of course, but somehow West took it. West continued with the jack of clubs, disastrously crashing partner's king. Mossop won, played a second club to West's nine, ruffed the diamond return, and ran the six of clubs, taking a ruffing finesse against the ten.

After this misadventure, West's defensive signals will probably be much less generous (and less clear) for quite some time. ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on

bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekens section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CUDDY a. A lord's entertainment b. An officer's cabin c. A stupid Scot

a. Oyster spawn b. A pine cone c. A fused wire

CULLIS a. A small postern b. A strong broth c. A roof gutter CULVERTAGE Primitive drainage b. A dressage manoeuvre c. Downgrading



BY RAYMOND KEENS CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Youngest grandmaster In the wake of Gawain Jones. 9, defeating the international master Malcolm Pein, Etienne Bacrot, from France, has scored 612 points out of rune games in the category ten tournament at Enghien-les-Bains, near Paris, to become the world's youngest-ever grandmaster. Bacrot is 14.

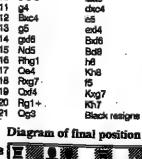
World championship It has been announced that the

controversial 1997 world championship between Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov. which bypasses both of their official organisations, the PCA and Fide, will be held near Paris starting in October. The match will have a prize fund of \$3 million, be played over 18 games and will start on October 21. The venue will be the Palace of Napoleon at Complègne, 50 kilometres north of Paris.

Brilliant win

The following brilliant win was scored by the British international master. Aaron Summerscale in the tournament at Cannes. There is a superb variation on move 17 if Black accepts the rook sacrifice.

White: Aaron Summerscale Black: Edmar Mednis Cannes, March 1997

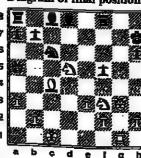


Queen's Gambit Declined

Qc2

0-0-0

0-0 ක්



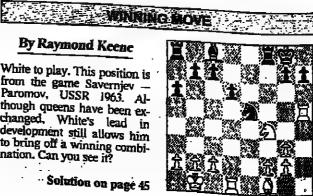
If 18 ... Kxg7 19 Rg1+ Bg5 20 Nxg5 hxg5 21 Rxg5+ Kh6 22 Rh5+ Kxh5 23 Qh7+ Kg4 24 Be2+ B 25 Nf6+ Kg5 26 Ne4+ Kg4 27 h3 checkmate.

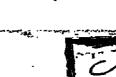
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Savernjev -Paromov, USSR 1963. Although queens have been exchanged. White's lead in development still allows him to bring off a winning combination. Can you see it?

Solution on page 45





because capsizing in August is

December.

much less uncomfortable than in

You should certainly attend some

each between 15 and 35 miles long,

Sundays in the run-up to the main

event. They are held on different

stretches of the course so that

marathon in advance.

paddlers can get an idea of the

which are staged fortnightly on

of the Waterside and Thameside series,

● Details and application forms for the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race can be

Forge, Church Road, Bookham, Surrey KT23 31G. of phone 0171-401 8266. Entry fees are

tween E60 and E70 for a double boat and

Validity issue not raised before ombudsman

Hamar and Another v Pensions Ombudsman and Another

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Saville and Lord Justice Millett [Judgment March [8]

Where the validity of an application by a deferred pensioner to transfer his accrued rights from one pension scheme to another was not raised by the trustees of the scheme at the hearing of a Ombudsman, the trustees were precluded from raising the matter on an appeal to the High Court under section 151(4) of the Pension

Schemes Act 1993. The Court of Appeal so stated, inter alia, allowing an appeal by the complainant, John Michael French, from the decision of Mr Justice Collins made on October 20, 1995 whereby he allowed the appeal of the trustees, Christopher James Hamar and Lockville Trustees Ltd. from the decision of the Pensions Ombudsman.

In June 1992 the complainant complained to the ombudsman that he had suffered injustice because of maladministration by the trustees who had failed to pay the transfer value of his accrued pension rights under a small selfadministered occupational pension scheme established by Zengrange Ltd for the benefit of its employees to another scheme, Greplite Ltd Executive Pensions Fund. The ombudsman upheld his

The complainant was the managing director of Zengrange Ltd and, as such, an employed member of the scheme until his dismissal on May 30, 1989. He was also a trustee until his removal from the trusteeship on September learning that he had been

removed as a trustee, he wrote a letter dated October 15, 1990 to the trustees formally requiring them

to transfer his entitlement to "another scheme, details of which shall be advised in due course".

He received no reply and wrote again on August 24, 1991 repeating his requirement and identifying the other scheme as "the Grenlite Ltd Executive Pensions Fund* The letter indicated that the scheme was then still in the course preparation, but it was established week or two later. Inland April ID, 1992.

Mr Mark Herbert, QC, who did not appear below, for the com-plainant: Mr Christopher Nugee

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the judge set aside the order of the ombudsman on the ground that the complainant had never made a valid application for the payment of his transfer value. The point was taken by the trustees for the first time in their appeal.

Counsel who then appeared for the complainant did not argue that the point was not open to the trustees, either because they were wise; nor did he attempt to support either of the letters dated October 15, 1990 or August 24, 1991 as a valid exercise of his statutory

His Lordship agreed with the judge that the complainant never made a valid application. The next issue was whether the trustees were estopped or otherwise excluded from challenging the validity of the application. In his Lordship's judgment, it

raised two distinct questions: First, whether it was open to the trustees to waive the strict require-ments of section 95 of the 1993 Act and treat an application which did not comply with them as if it did. Second, if it was open to them to waive the statutory requirements, whether they did so, either by choosing not to rely on the non-

themselves that it would be inequitable for them to rely on it.

Similar questions were considered by the House of Lords in Kammins Ballrooms Co Ltd v Zenith Investments (Torquay) Ltd ([1971] AC 850) and by the Court of Appeal in Daejan Properties Ltd v Mahoney (1995) 2 EGLR 75).

In both cases the statutory language was mandatory and explicit; yet the parties were held to be able to waive compliance with the express requirements of the statute because they were imposed for their protection.

By comparison with the statutory provisions under consideration in those cases, section 95 of the 1993 Act was a hybrid. Some of its provisions clearly could not be

Those which restricted the use to which the transfer value could be applied, for example, were im-posed as a matter of policy. They were not imposed for the be the parties, and certainly not for the benefit of the trustees. They

Other requirements of section 95, however, were purely formal, The requirement that the application be made in writing, for example, was clearly imposed for the benefit of the trustees; it migh requirement, but it would be absurd to hold that they could not do so if they chose.

In his Lordship's judgment, the trustees were entitled to treat the letter of August 24, 1991 as a valid application even if it was pre mature. The same was true of the letter of October 15, 1990 even if it did not exercise the option con ferred by section 95 with sufficient particularity and did not tell the trustees what they were to do.

The matter could be tested by considering the various functions which the application under sec-tion 95 served. In his Lordship's judgment, the trustees could prop-

erly waive the want of particularity in the letter of October 15 and treat it as a lawful exercise of the option conferred by the section.

Equally, they could properly accept the letter as fixing the date by reference to which the value of the transfer payment was to be ascertained. No question of public would be involved. And if, as his Lordship would hold, the trustees might waive formal defects in the application such as want of particularity, then they might accept a defective applica-tion as valid to fix the date for ascertaining the value of the trans-

His Lordship was of the opinion that the trustees did implicitly accept the letter of October 15 as a valid application with which they were bound to comply, while at the same time maintaining their right to defer actual payment until the property [the main asset of the scheme] could be sold. They never resiled from that position. Had they done so at any time before the ombudsman made his final determination, he would have had to decide whether they should be allowed to do so

In his Lordship's view, the ombudsman could not have been criticised if he had refused to allow the trustees to challenge the validf the application in the course of their reply to his provisional

But it did not matter whether they could have been procluded from disputing the validity of the application before the ombude man, for they never did. It was plainly too late for them to do so for the first time in their appeal from the final determination of the The objection to raising the

matter for the first time on appeal had in his Lordship's opinion nothing to do with estoppel, waiver

It arose from the nature of legal

process: In ordinary litigation the issues were defined by the pleadings. They could not be amended after trial to raise new issues not opened on the pleadings below.

The general principle was that the mere failure to raise a defence did not amount to a representation that it would not be raised at the proper time; but if it was not raised when the time came to raise it. it was treated as waived: see Graham v Ingleby ((1848) 1 Exch 651,

Investigations by the Pensions Ombudsman were informal. There were no pleadings. The issues were defined by the complaint and the response to it. The urisdiction of the ombudsman was limited to the investigation of the complaint actually made to At the end of his investigation,

his duty was to determine the matters then actually in dispute between the parties. If he correctly applied the law correctly to the facts found or not in dispute, he made no error of law. Neither the validity of the letter

of October 15, 1990 nor the trustees obligation to comply with it when they could do so without detriment to the members of the scheme was ever in dispute. Appeal from the determination of the Pensions Ombudsman lay to

the High Court but on a question of law only. His Lordship was at a loss to know what error of law was made by the ombudsman. In his Lordship's view the ombudsman was entitled to treat

the letter of October 15, 1990 as valid as the parties had themselves treated it. Mr Herbert had submitted that the principle in play was that of estopped by convention. His Lordship would not so

regard it but the analogy was close. The judge was wrong to find that the ombudsman made an error in law in treating the letter as valid

when its validity was not disputed before him.

عكذا من الإعلى

The last question was whether the complainant could be allowed to challenge the judge's decision when he did not raise the matter below. If the trustees should not have been allowed to dispute the validity of the letter of October 15. 1990 before the judge because they had not done so before the ombudsman, surely the complainant should not be allowed to challenge their right to do so before their Lordships when he did not do

so before the judge. But in his Lordship's judgment the two situations were different. The Pensions Ombudsman was the sole tribunal of fact. His function was to reach a conclusion on the facts found or disputed.

The appeal to the judge lay on a uestion of law only. The judge had no jurisdiction to disturb the determination of the ombudsman if it was reached by a correct application of the law to the facts and by him or not in dispute before him. The appeal to the Court of

Appeal was by way of rehearing, if the judge found an error of law where there was none, then the court was bound to correct him. The failure of an appellant to ake a point below was material,

but it ought not to deter their Lordships where it had not re-sulted in uncompensatable prejudice to the other party. Subject to the variations (1) that

the transfer value should be ascertained at October 15, 1990 and ii) that it should be poid with terest from October 5, 1994, the date of his final determination, out of the assets subject to the trusts of the scheme, his Lordship would restore the decision of the ombudsman. Lord Justice Simon Brown and

Lord Justice Saville agreed. Solicitors: Ford & Warren,

Currency losses not allowable

Taylor Clark International Ltd v Lewis (Inspector of Tancsi

Before Mr Justice Robert Walker Liudement March 7

Losses caused by fluo rency rates from the repayment of a secured, interest-bearing, loan made to an overseas company by its United Kingdom parent company to finance a property development project did not give rise to a loss for capital gains tax

The lender's right to repayment of the loan was not a "debt on a security" within the meaning of section 134 of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979 so that the losses were not allowable in computing liability in respect of chargeable gains. Mr Justice Robert Walker so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division dismissing an appeal by way of case stated by the

natpayer company, Taylor Clark International Ltd. from a determination of special commissioners (Mr T. H. K. Everett, Mr Stephen Oliver, QC and Mr M. Corowell-Kelly) that losses sustained during the accounting periods to March 1992 were not in respect of a debt on a security and were therefore not allowable losses.

Section 29 of the 1979 Act provides: "(2) ... all the provisions of this Act which distinguish gains which are chargeable gains from those which are not ... shall also apply to distinguish losses which allowable losses from those which are not . . . Section 134 provides: "(1) Where

a person incurs a debi to another ... no chargeable gain shall accrue
... on a disposal of the debt except in the case of the debt on a security in the case to the condition and an armount in the case to the condition as a bove)."

Section 82(3)(b) defines security as including "any loan stock or similar security ... of any company, and whether secured or the condition and the case of the condition as a second or the case of the case o unsecured."

The provisions are now contained in the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992

Mr Graham Aaronson, QC and Mr Anthony de Garr Robinson for the taxpayer company, Mr. Launcelot Henderson, QC, for the MR JUSTICE ROBERT

WALKER said that the general policy underlying section 134(1) was described by Lord Justice Templeman in Ramsay (W. T.) Ltd v /RC ([1979] I WLR 974, 982-3) as constituting a coherent system of apital gains taxation by excluding dispositions of debts by owner where the dispositions cannot give rise to gains but to include dispositions of debts in the form of nvestments which may result in gains of losses in the same way as dispositions of other investments" The appeal was concerned with a loan in US dollars by the

taxpayer company to its wholly owned Californian subsidiary for the purchase of three properties in Santa Clara. The documentary

notes encumbering the and statements that the loan was to be interest bearing and repayable on demand.

The loan was repaid by 1992. Whether the exchange losses on the taxpayer company converting repaid dollars into sterling during its 1992 accounting period was an allowable loss was the essential

It was common ground that that depended on whether or not the taxpayer company's right to repayment of the dollar loan was a "d on a security" within section 134(1). There was no suggestion of tax avoidance by the taxpayer com-pany; had it foreseen the exchange loss it could without artificiality

have structured the loan in such a way as to make it reasonably clear that it did create a debt on a Mr Aaronson, relying on the speech of Lord Russell in Aberdeen Construction Group Ltd v IRC (1978] AC 885, 903), submitted that the primary meaning of "security" was, as exemplified by Lord Justice Templeman in the Ramsay case (at

p983) as being "a fixed or floating charge", any proprietary security and that that was conclusive of the Mr Henderson submitted that if Parliament had intended every debt backed by some proprietary security to fall within section 134(1) it would not have done so by borrowing the definition of "sec-

urity" from section 82(3)(b). The definition was, he said, limited to definition was, he said, lin loan stock or something like loan Mr Aaronson's submissions had to be rejected. The decisions of the

House of Lords in Aberdeen Construction and Ramsay did not establish that a "debt on a sec-urity" included a debt that was supported by some proprietary security but which did not resemble a marketable investment. Here the debt evidenced by the

promissory note was stated to be ignable and had documentary title but its terms were such that it was unlikely, although not totally impossible, to be of interest to an autside investor. But the special commissisoners

took the view that the loan lacked "a structure of permanence" because it had no fixed term and repayment could have been demanded by the creditor or debtor That was an important point,

even if not absolutely decisive. The case was one of a secure, interestbearing intra-group loan to fi-nance a particular project. The terms and context of the

loan were such that it was unlikely that the benefit of the loan would be dealt in or marketed. The commissioners were right to attach importance to the impermanent nature of the loan and right in their main conclusion. Solicitors: William Sturges & Co;

Solicitor of inland Revenue.

Pleading libel out of time in contract case

Lloyds Bank plc v Rogers and Another Before Lord Justice Simon Brown,

Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Hobhouse Judgment December 201

in an unusual case where a claimant could not be sure his bank had libelled him without first determining what the state of his ecount would have been had the It bank not levied allegedly excessive charges, the court would allow him under section 35 of the Limitation Act 1980 to amend his pleadings in a breach of contract action so as to plead libel even though more than three years had passed since the

The policy of section 35 of the 1980 Act was that, if factual issues were in any event going to be litigated between the parties, the parties should be able to rely upon any cause of action which substanrially grose from those facts. . Any relevant prejodice to the

opposing the amendment party opposing the amendment could be taken into account in the exercise of the court's discretion whether to allow use arr There were no grounds in the instant case on which the court could interfere with the judge's exercise of his discretion.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Lloyds Bank ple against Judge Overend, QC, who, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court at Plymouth (The Times April II, 1996) gave leave to the first defendant. Nicholas Rogers, to further amend his defence and counterclaim in an action brought against him and

the second defendant, Linda Jane Rogers, in which the bank originally claimed £78,646.53 plus

Mr David Eady, QC and Mr Thomas Keith for the bank; Mr Michael Tugendhat, QC and Mr

interest and bank charges on his account. The bank blamed the computer and gave him a £6.134.37 credit. At the same time the bank demanded immediate payment of £78.646.53, threatening otherwise to tell credit agencies he was a

The bank's further and better particulars in the action revealed it had been charging the defendant interest at 37.67 per cent. It sought summary judgment for that sum.

The defendant took expert advice and showed an arguable case that the charges were unjustified. The bank in response amended the endorsement to its writ by abandoning the claim to interest, reduc-ing the claim by £35,706.13 to £42,940.40 but still failed to get

Miles Croally for Mr Rogers.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said the first defendant was a commercial photographer who had taken out a secured overdraft with the bank at what he though was 4 per cent above the bank's base rate. Debit balances had built up and the bank on a number of astons had dishonoured his cheques and refused direct debit instructions, seriously affecting his business and his ordinary life.

with the bank the size of the

The implication of the abandon-ment of the interest claim was that

t no longer followed there were necessarily insufficient funds in the accounts when the cheques and debits were dishonoured. On that basis, in spring 1993 the

defendant had served an amended defence and counterclaim, asserting that the bank had wrongfully dishonoured his cheques and wrongly made statements that his nts contained insufficient funds, amounting to breach of contract and libel. Leave to amend was required and application was made in August 1994. By that time, more than three

years had passed, exceeding the three-year limitation period in a The defendant had taken up claim for libel, although not the six-year period laid down for contract actions. The defendant therefore relied on section 35 and Order 20, rule 5 of the Rules of the The bank argued that there was no jurisdiction to add a cause of

action in defamation when the facts referred to had first been omer. Nine days pleaded in the action after the the bank had issued a writ expiry of the three-year period, and that only the original pleading served in 1991 could be looked at rejected the bank's arguments on jurisdiction and exercised his dis-

cretion in favour of the defendant.
The bank argued that the policy
of the Act required the facts should have been pleaded before the expiry of the relevant limitation period, so that a later pleading of the facts could not be used to support an out of time amendment even though the facts had been eaded in relation to a cause of action which at that time was not

> The judge had correctly rejected that argument, Section 35 contemplated that the introduced cause of action would be time-harred. The policy of the section was that, if factual issues were in any event going to be lirigated between the parties, the parties should be able to rely upon any cause of action which substantially arose from

those facts.

The bank had argued that discretion should be exercised in its favour because there was a strong policy that any defamation action should be started promptly after the defamatory statement came to the notice of the prospec-

The instant case was unusual. When the defamatory statements were made the bank was asserting that the state of the accounts was

Bankrupt)

such as to justify fully what it had done. Until the defendant was in a position to ascertain the facts and sprove that he was not entitled to helieve that he had been wrongly defamed. Now that the whole question of

the bank's dishonouring of the cheques and debit instructions and the Justification for it and the damage to Mr Rogers and his business was going to be before the court, there was no adequate reason why if part of what he was entitled to complain of amounted to the tort of libel he should not be allowed to include claims under that head as well. The bank had not been prej-

udiced by the lause of time. No sufficient grounds had been shown for interfering with the judge's exercise of his discretion. In his Lordship's judgment the judge's conclusion was appropriate on the somewhat unusual facts. Lord Justice Peter Gibson

JUSTICE SIMON LORD

BROWN sald that in 99.9 per cent of libel cases the approach addicta in Grovit v Doctor reported, October 28, (993) and Oyston v Blaker (1996) 1 WLR 1.36), was correct. Those who alleged they had been defamed should seek the vindication of their reputation as speedily as possible and the relative speed or delay of their proceedings was a touchstone

by which the genuineness of their complaint might be judged. However, this was plainly the thousandth case. Here the libel claim mirrored the existing contract claim so that there would in any event be litigated the all important factual issue, the state of the defendant's account. Here too, for that very reason, there was no overall delay in the commencement of proceedings, nor any overall lengthening of their course

by the amendment. The defendant had hardly been tardy in seeking to vindicate his reputation. He did not know realistically whether or not he had been libelled until he knew the true state of his account. Although technically he knew he has been libelled as soon as his cheques were returned, any successful claim had to include the assertion that the cheques should have been met because there were funds or agreed facilities available. In reality, the claim and the defence were one.

Soliciturs: Foot & Bowden, Plymouth: Alison Trent & Co.

Choice to be made without advice

Director of Public Prosecutions v Ward

A driver with a right to replace a breath specimen with a specimen of blood or urine was not entitled to have legal advice before deciding whether to exercise that right.
The Queen's Bench Divisional
Court (Lord Justice Brooke and Mr

Justice Blofeld) so held on March is when allowing an appeal by the prosecution by case stated against the acquittal by Brighton Justices on May 23, 1996 of Jack Ward of driving after having consumed alcohol in excess of the limit.

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE said that the defendant, having pro-vided a breath specimen which contained less than 50 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millititres of breath, had declined to exercise his right under section 8(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to replace the specimen with one of blood or The justices had found that the

police should have waited until the defendant had spoken to a solicitor before asking him whether he wished to replace the specimen. and they excluded the evidence of the breath specimen under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. It was clear from DPP v

Billington (1988) RTR 231) that the right to consult a solicitor, under section 58 of the 1984 Act, did not when a motorist was reguired to provide a speciunder section 7 of the 1988 Act. Since there was no logical distinction between the procedures of section 7 and section 8, a suspect had no right to legal advice when making a decision under section

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Switzerland	(SFr)	809	35%	443		 	130
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THE TIMES SUBSCRIPTION OFFER urday Baturday on Conditional (": [] West [] Mar

order aside in re Sybil Margaret Pope (a

Non-party sought

to set

[Judgment March 7] Where a person who was affected by an order made in the course of litigation to which he was not a party and of which he had no notice wished to apply to have that order set aside, he was entitled to do so under Order 37, rule 2 of the County Court Rules 1981 if he first

Before Miss Hazel Williamson,

to invoking Order 37, rule 1. Miss Hazel Williamson, QC, sitting as a depury judge of the Chancery Division, so held dismissing the appeal of the trustee in bankruptcy to Sybil Pope against a ruling by Deputy Judge Fawcett on January 6, 1997 in Brighton County Court that, interalia. Birmingham Midshires Building Society, which had not been a party to the bankruptcy proceedings, had been entitled to apply under Order 37, rule 2 to

successfully applied to become a

party to those proceedings under Order 15, rule 1. He was not limited

have an order made in those proceedings set aside. Mr James King-Smith for the building society.

HER LADYSHIP said that although she had initially been

aside under Order 37, rule 2. She agreed with counsel for the society that Order 37 expressly contemplated applications to be who therefore might not have

Wolverhampton.

trustee: Mr Simon Clegg for the

attracted by the reference to the clear definition of "party" in Order 37, rule 2 and felt that supported the trustee's argument that that could only mean a person on the record, or falling within the definition of "party" in section 147 of the County Courts Act 1984, on a proper analysis of the general structure of the County Court Rules in relation to setting aside judgment, she was satisfied that it was in fact correct to apply to become a party under Order 15. rule I and then to apply to set

made by strangers to litigation and knowledge that an order had been made, and it would be strange if those people should be subject to the 14-day time limit imposed by

Solicitors, Woolley Bevis & Diplock. Brighton: Rees-Page.

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The winner and a companion will be taken on safari into the African bush with trained game rangers and Shangaan trackers. So diverse is the habitat and wildlife at Sabi Sabi they will have an excellent chance of seeing the "Big Five" — elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion and leopard as well as wild dog, cheetah, zebra, giraffe and all species indigenous to the area.

HOW TO ENTER

Simply collect four differently numbered tokens from those appearing in The Times this week and answer the question on the entry form below. A bonus token also appeared in Weekend on Saturday. The closing date for entries is Saturday April 12, 1997.









THE TIMES/VIRGIN	JO'BURG FLIGHTS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Attach four differently numbered tokens from The Times to this form and | IT WOULD HELP US IF YOU ANSWERED THESE FOUR QUESTIONS: tick the appropriate answer to the competition question. Post to: The Times/Virgin Jo'burg Competition, 11 Whitemars St, London EC88 7NG. The closing data for receipt of entries is Seturday, April 12, 1997... Sabi Sabi adjoins which National Park?

a) Serengeti b) Kruger c) Hwange

Day Tel

Which one of the following age groups do you fall into? (Please tick box) 1 15-24 2 25-34 3 35-44 4 45-54 5 55-64 6 65+ Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (4-6 copies)

Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy occasionally (3 copies or

Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (24 copies a

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 1. The prizes will consist of: one first prize of one pair of Economy round-trip tickets on the London Heathrow Johannesburg d by Virgin Atlantic Airways Einited and two night accommodation, including all meals, for two people provided by Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve and domestic flights between Johannesburg and Sabi Sabi. The first prize winner is permitted to extend their stay, however all additional accommodation will be their responsibility. Fifty runners-up will each receive prize of one pair of Economy round-trip tickets on the London Heathrow-Johannesburg service operated by Virgin Atlantic Aliways Limited. 2 Tickets will be valid for 12 months from date of Issue. Actual dates of travel bject to availability at the time of booking. Availability for use of prize tickets is limited for sech flight. Some flights may already be booked and consequently have no seeks available for this offer. The earlier you book, er the chance you will have of obtaining seats on the flight of your choice. 3 Travel is not permitted between December 1 1997 and January 31. 1998 (inclusive) or within the period of seven days immediately preceding and sympediately following Good Friday. 4 Flights must originate in London Healthrow. 5 The prices are not transferable to arrother family member or any Construction person. There is no construction of the JIK, 7 Tickets are non-timelying discribing sitting and have no cash value. 8 Pairs of prize state principle transities sitting and have no cash value. 8 Pairs of prize where some time together on the turns fight and on the same date. 9 Fights can have be cooked by contacting Virgin Atlantic's Marketing.

numbers and office hours will be supplied. 10 Ten working days booking notice will be required. 11 All numers-up will be responsible for their own accommodation. All prize winners will be responsible for their own visa account recount. The price will use to inspect and their own vise requirements, passport and insurance. 12 Once a booking has been confirmed no changes are permitted, if a booking is cancelled no alternative tickets will be issued. 13 Prize winners will abide by and be subject to Virgin Atlantic's published terms and conditions of carriage which are available from any Virgin Atlantic office. 14 Once tickets have been issued Virgin Attantic shall not be liable for any failure to comply with its obligations Anished shall not be leave for any leave to confine to confine the confidence of caused by weather conditions, fire, flood, strike, hurricane, industrial disputs war, hostilities, political unrest, riots, civil commotion, inevitable accidents. acts of God or any other circumstance amounting to Force Majeure, 15 Only acts of God or any other circumstance amounting to Force Majeure. 15 Only original tokens and entry forms permitted. Photocopies are not acceptable. 16 The judges' decision is final. Receipts of entries will not be acknowledged. 17 No Virgin Freeway miles will be awarded for travel under this promotion. 18 The prize ticlests may not be used in conjunction with any other promotions or promotional fare mounted by Virgin Atlantic or any other third pasty. 19 Employees of News International Newspapers Ltd. Virgin Atlantic, their against or any company associated with the competition are not engineer to entry this competition. 20 No purchase necessary. Airport tax, air passanger dury and security charges are not included in the prize and are

CHANGING TIMES

THE TIMES MONDAY MARCH 24 199	7	EQUITY PRICES 41
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"279 150

CARADON: The benefits of

recent rationalisation will be a

key feature when full-year

figures are announced on

return to the black.

REDLAND: A disappointing

performance across Europe

pre-tax profits of almost a

third to £252 million when the

group reports on Thursday.

Earnings per share are expected to drop from 30.6p to 21.3p.

while it is hoped that the divi-

TAYLOR WOODROW: The

gradual recovery in the hous-

ing market should provide the

biggest thrust to the group's

performance. Pre-tax profits

omorrow will be about £66.5

dend will be pegged at 16.7p.

Next to publish catalogue of healthy figures

Britain's premier high street fashion retailer is set to continue with full-year figures on Wednesday. Judging by the Christmas trading statement, these figures should be fairly impressive, with pre-tax profits expected to grow almost 30 per cent from £125 million to £159 million. Earnings growth should be even stronger, with a 31 per cent increase pencilled in from 23.1p to 30.3p.

Sales of the group's retailing arm grew 24 per cent in the 24 weeks to January 1, bolstered by a 5 per cent increase in selling space. But as David Jones, chief executive, is only too happy to point out, the real boost to sales came from Next Directory, which was up 26 per cent. The overall increase in group sales was 16 per cent. According to NatWest Securities, costs have risen about 13 per cent, although gross margins will have grown 0.5 per cent. Shareholders are expect-

P&O: Full-year figures tomorrow, are likely to bear the scars of a £50 million to £60 million hit relating to its cross-Channel ferry operations. However, these write-offs are likely to be countered, to an

ed to be rewarded with a near-

30 per cent rise in the payout

from 11.75p to 15p net.

extent, by an improved contribution from its cruise and property development arms.

Overall, pre-tax profits are expected to be down about £30 million at £290 million with earnings per share showing an 11 per cent decline at 33.9p. Brokers say the decline in

profitability should prove short-lived as the benefits of restructuring filter through this year. These will include improved efficiency in both the container and, subject to regulatory approval, the ferry operations. In the current year the group also expects to complete the merger with Stena, the demerger of Bovis Homes, the withdrawal from bulk shipping and the pro-posed disposal of £500 million worth of property.

The payout is likely to be held at 30.5p.

BLUE CIRCLE: A stronger second-half performance is envisaged at home after the 21 per cent profits shortfall at Blue Circle Industries in the first six months.

The group's involvement in the three strongest cement markets in the world will boister the overall profit, to be unveiled today, by 11 per cent, from £273 million to £303 million, with carnings per share up from 21.4p to 23.6p. The dividend is expected to grow from 12.5p to 13.2p.

COMPANIES

INCHCAPE: The measures taken by the new management and stronger performances from its core operations should mean that improved full-year figures are unveiled

Pre-tax profits are likely to be up 13 per cent at £166 million, while carnings will have grown 22 per cent to 17.1p. The payout is likely to be 5 per cent higher at 10.5p.

A recovery is expected in the

vehicle import and distribution operation where a combination of new models, the return to profitability of the European arm and the weaker Japanese yen will have proved beneficial. The only drag will come from weaker car sales in Hong Kong and Singapore. An improvement is also expected in the marketing division after rationalisation, while further investment in its Coca-Cola bottling plants in Russia will have held back

million last time, while earnings per share are likely to be up from 8.9p to 11.3p. The contracting arm will have made efforts to break even after recent losses. The dividend should grow from 3p to 3.5p.

Wednesday, with pre-tax profits expected to be 17 per cent BOOKER: A sharp drop in profits is on the cards when ahead at £176.7 million comthe food distribution group pared with £151.6 million last reports full-year results totime. Earnings will also have grown 16 per cent to 15.9p, but morrow. Pre-tax profits are expected to slump from £90.2 the payout is likely to show million to £27 million, after only a small increase to 9.7p compared with 9.5p last time. restructuring charges of £77 Cost savings of £30 million million. Earnings will shump were achieved in the first half from 26p to a loss of 5p in the with that figure growing to wake of last year's rights issue £54 million for the year, while and the increased number of new shares in issue. Brokers US windows and doors will are hoping for a 3 per cent rise in the payout to 23.8p.

> MORGAN CRUCIBLE: To expected downturn in growth during the second half failed to materialise and profits in the second six months are now expected to match those of the first. As a result, overall profits at the pre-tax level are expected to come out today at £98.5 compared with £85.1 million last time. Earnings should be up from 25.1p to 28.3p while the payout is likely to be lifted from 13.8p to 14.5p.

> > MICHAEL CLARK



12/00/15 L

David Jones has seen the success of Next Directory give a boost to Next's sales

ECONOMIC - OUTLOOK

Increase is forecast for **US** rates

THE key event for financial markets this week is the Federal Open Market Committee's meeting tomorrow amid widespread expectation that US interest rates will be raised. After last week's testimony to Congress by Alan Greenspan, Fed Chairman, in which he spoke of the strength of the economy and the importance of pre-emptive action against inflation, the markets believe that the Fed Funds rate will be raised by 0.25 per cent.

Britain's economic agendais fairly light. Interest rates will be centre stage on Wednesday when Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, hold their monthly discussion of monetation is that the Bank will again seek a quarter-point on base rates and that Mr Clarke will continue to say "no" right up until the election.

Today sees publication of final figures for fourth-quarter gross domestic product, expected to leave quarterly growth unchanged at 0.8 per cent and year-on-year growth unchanged at 27 per cent.

January figures for global show a deficit of £710 million on Wednesday, according to a consensus of forecasts compiled by MMS International. against December's £845 million shortfall. February non-European Union trade is predicted to show a deficit of £565 million, against January's £398 million shortfall.

In Europe, the most important figures will be Germany's March cost of living data, expected to show a modest drop in the annual inflation rate after an upward blip earlier this year. In January. the rate jumped to 1.8 per cent. from 1.4 per cent in December, before easing to 1.7 per cent in February. In France, figures on Friday are expected to show unemployment stuck at 12.7 per cent in February.

JANET BUSH

RESULTS AND

TODAY

Interfes: GR Hoktings, Northern Leisure, Prolific Income, SCI Entertainmart. Finala; Arvey, Blue Circle Industries, Brammer, Capital & Regional
Properties, Detrontech Group, EBC
Gp, Final Earth, Forth Porte, Global
Gp, How Gp, Incheape, Kingspan Gp,
Morgan Crucible, Nestor-BNA, Newport Holdings, Nottingham Gp Hidgs,
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Shurpe & Fisher, Transise, Travis Parkins, T&S Stores, Ulster TV, VCI,
Waterford Wedgwood, Economic
statistics: UK final GDP (CA), UK belance of payments (C4), Insee report
on French economy.

WEDNESDAY

The Sunday Times: Buy Racal Electronics, ED&F Man; Sell wood Williams, Eurocamp.

STATISTICS

TOMORROW

SUMPAY TIPS

Newcastle United. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Pearson. Frost Group, Upton & Southern. The Observer: Buy Next. The Mail on Sunday: Buy BP. SEC Group, Stadium. Independent on Sunday: Buy Capital and Regional Properties, BTR, Tomkins, Sunday Business: Buy Iceland, Hey-

FRIDAY

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Hydro-Electric and GA Direct test cross-selling

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A SHOT in the battle for household electricity consumers will be fired today when General Accident Direct, the insurance company, joins Hydro-Electric in an alliance that could lead to a national

energy marketing vehicle.
The two Perth-based companies are linking - more than a year before the opening of the domestic market to competition — in an affinity trial to see whether customers of each company respond well to cross-marketing, if the trials of 40,000 homes nationwide prove successful, the two could strike an alliance that would be one of the first national marketing drives in energy.

Two groups of 20,000 homes will be sent a mailshot by Hydro-Electric and GA Direct. Hydro-Electric's letter will go to a cross-section of its customers in the north of Scotland promoting GA Direct and offering discounts on insurance. Interested customers would then have to approach GA Direct, rather than the electricity company. GA Direct's letter will target 20,000 of its customers in England

FOURTEEN hundred Ger-

man investors caught up in

an alleged "advanced fee"

fraud have launched an

action in the High Court in

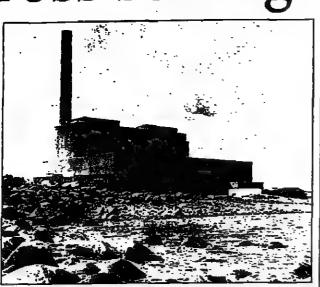
London to try to recover more than \$14 million.

Gerhard Martens, a Ger-

man national on remand in

Exeter Prison, is named in the

action, which relates to Opera-



Power from Hydro-Electric may be sold via GA Direct

about Hydro-Electric as an energy supplier. The insurance company will enclose an energy survey and the offer of entry into a prize draw for

those homes that reply. Dennis Barnes, Hydro-Electric's channels development manager, said: This is an important first step for Hydro-Electric in advance of competition in the British electricity market. The choice of GA Direct as an affinity parmer offers a mutually ben-

Investors seek to recover \$14m

By Jon Ashworth

the Serious Fraud Office (SFO)

and Devon and Cornwall Police, Herr Martens, based

in Torquay since the mid-

Eighties, was arrested in Sep-

tember 1995 and charged with conspiracy to defraud.

West Country fraud squad

officers carried out raids in

connection with an alleged international "advanced fee"

eficial opportunity which both companies are keen to grasp."

Many companies with big customer bases, such as mail order firms and insurers, are interested in the dawn of competition in electricity. However, with competition not due to start until next April, few have been willing to commit

themselves to participate. Hydro-Electric and GA will have response rates of their trial mailshots monitored by an independent company.

are believed to have lost £100

million. The practice involves

investors paying a large up-front fee for a line of credit that

is never forthcoming.

The action, brought by three

German investment clubs, is directed at Allgemeine Han-

dels und Effecten Bank, a Del-

aware-registered company

that was controlled by Herr

Gokal trial jury to reconvene

Jurors in the Old Bailey trial of Abbas Gokal, former head of the Gulf Group, are to resume deliberations today. The jury retired on Friday after a summing-up by Mr Justice Buxton. The jururs were later sent home for the weekend.

Mr Gokal, 61. denies one count of false accounting and a second of conspiracy to defraud. He is alleged to have conspired with officials of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) to falsify documents with a view to enabling BCCI secretly to fund the Gulf Group.

He is further alleged to have conspired with BCCI officials o create a financial structure designed in deceive Price Waterhouse, BCCI's auditor. The structure was allegedly controlled by, although not traceable to, the Gulf Group. and was designed to channel funds to Gulf from BCCI.

The court has heard that the Gulf was indebted to BCCI by \$1.2 billion. The jury was told that Mr Gokal fled to Pakistan in 1992, shortly before Swiss police raided his Geneva office. He was arrested in Frankfurt two years later, when his US-bound flight put down to refuel.

Lloyd's case

The first in a series of hearings to address alleged fraud in Lloyd's of London is to resume in the High Court today. A number of names are refusing to pay funds owed under the Lloyd's reconstruction plan, alleging that they were fraudulently induced to begin underwriting. Lloyd's says that they entered thirdparty agreements and are obliged to pay, whatever the outcome of future legal action.

Sensor's £1m

Sensor Highway, an oil services company, is raising El million from 3i, the venture capital group, to fund new product development. The company was set up in 1995 to produce optical fibre sensors and optical processing systems to monitor conditions in oil and gas wells.

cycles to contain inflation standably focused on the general election, but it may be more appropriate for it to consider the election of 2002 Why? First, because that

result seems more uncertain. Even allowing for a big forecasting error, the opinion polls indicate a clean sweep for Labour this time. Some will say the polls suggested a similar result in 1992 and were wrong. However, in spite of the Tories' eventual lead of more than 7.5 per cent in the popular vote in 1992, equal to about 25. million votes, they came within a whisker of losing their overall majority, a total of fewer than 2.500 votes spread in the II closest contests would have done the trick for Labour.

the opinion polls is now far greater than in 1992 It would therefore seem appropriate for the gilt market to discount the consequences of Labour winning. What is less likely is that they will be able to plan for two terms Much of the first term will be spent establishing their credibility (given memories of policy mistakes in the 1970s). It will not be until the second term that the full impact of any major reforms will be felt.

Furthermore, Labour's lead in

cent, would exceed the UK. The budget deficit position A second reason to concen-

clearer picture of European Monetary Union should be available. The market's working assumption is that the UK will not be a full member of it until then. Hence the large yield premium on gibs over European bonds. However, if policy in the coming economic containing inflation. cycle desivers structural budget deficits and inflation that appear favourable by comparby decoupling the domestic ison with our European neighcycle from the export cycle. In bours, any future entry by the past, the UK economy has overheated when export de-

Split the export and domestic

of strength. This conirasis the present position in

Britain will be from a position

which we are deemed to trail Europe on these criteria.

Although much progress has been made in reducing budget deficits and inflation, there is still much to do. UK inflation is still at an underlying trend rate higher than our European neighbours. According to estimates by BZW, the UK should have a 3 per cent trend rate by the end of this year. This compares with estimates of 1.7 per cent for Germany and 1.9 per cent for France. Only Italy, with 3.8 per

lihood that 1998 will see incides with the next election Labour strategists savouring a big majority could be forgiven growth accelerate. Hence it becomes more important to enfor fine-tuning their mediumsure that the domestic cosnomy is not rearing altead then. The solution is to put the

brakes on the domestic econo-

my now. Higher interest rates

estic economy. Given that we

are a very open economy, the

impact of export expansion is

proportionately large. At-

tempts are already being

made to stimulate economic

growth in Europe, our closest

these may have limited suc-

cess in 1997, there is more like-

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trate on the first election of looks better, although largely—and tighter fiscal policy can do next century is that, by then, a for cyclical, rather than struct—this. The bias should be towards the latter, to avoid unmai, reasons Security, 2 necessary risks with export structural budget deficit that is competitiveness. Too high a rise in interest rates could send low by UK standards and by those expected to prevail in sterling soaring, denting the Europe would also strengthen export cycle just when domesour position. How can this tic demand is being slowed nirvana be achieved? Essendown. Tighter fiscal policy tially by prolonging the eco-nomic growth cycle while may prove a more effective way of reducing domestic de-Inflation could be continued mand and may be speedier,

> early in the new fiscal year. Successful parting of the domestic and export cycles ought to cut medium-term inflation pressure, but could dent corporate earnings. So, this strategy is likely to have a more favourable response from the gilt market than the equity market. However, applying the brakes early in the new electoral cycle should help to narrow the spread of UK gilt yields over German bonds; we would not be surprised to see it down to 100bp this year. It would also help to ensure that the next economic recovery co-

cutting the budget delicit quite

MICHAEL HUGHES

term plans.



Medusa valuation expected to be £13m

MEDUSA PETROLEUM, a what were formerly the two new oil and gas company, is to join the Alternative Investment Market next month at an expected value of £13 million (Fraser Nelson writes).

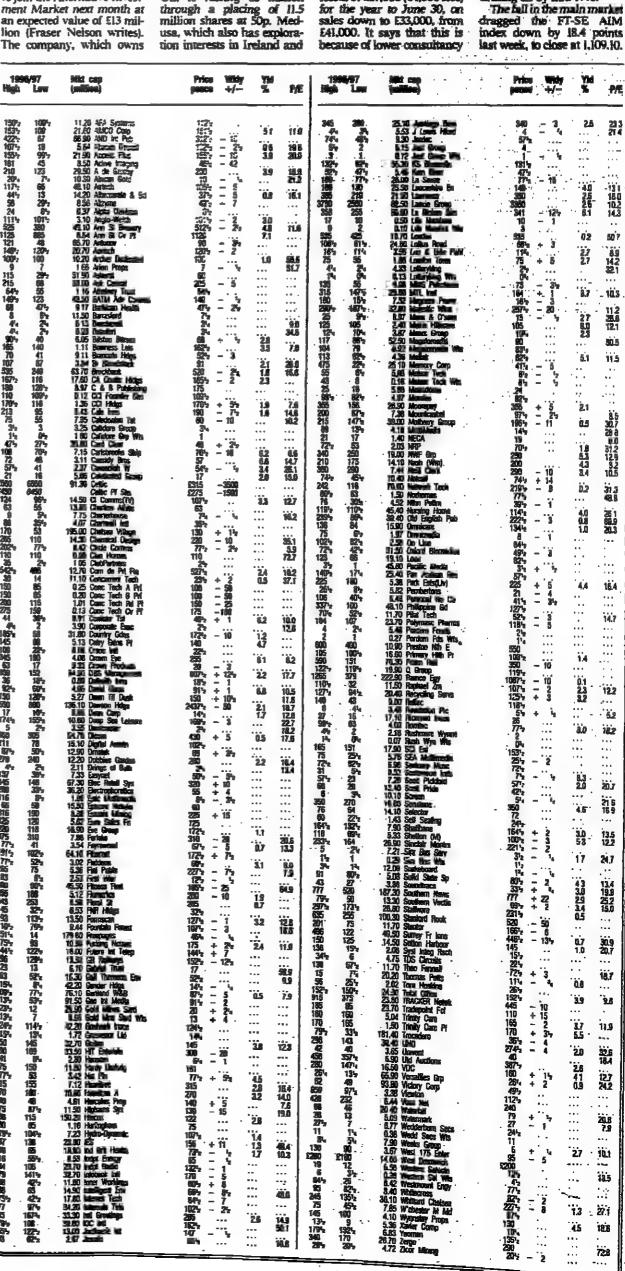
Czech subsidiaries of Tullow Oil, is raising 53 million

Italy, is coming to the market as it returns deepening losses of £67,000 (£4,000 loss)

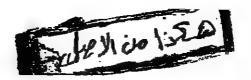
income and higher exploration costs. It expects to start drilling oil by mid-1998.

index down by 18.4 points last week, to close at 1,109.10.





are for



n a survey, 80 per cent of respondents said that they would be unaffected if the price of The Times were to increase by i0p. In another survey, 72 per cent of British manufacturers said they could cope with the strong pound. These are fictitious, though plausible, survey results, but they share something in common with a real survey on the subject of the minimum wage published last week by Reed Personnel Services. They each have next to no bearing

4 1947

on the issue at hand. The Reed survey revealed that 79 per cent of organisations would be unaffected by a national minimum wage of £3.25 an hour". So that's all right then. But what does "unaffected" mean? Would they be unaffected because next to nobody in their employ earned less than £3.25 an hour anyway? Was Goldman Sachs a respondent? It might say that it would be unaffected at ten times that rate. Or did they mean that their

Minimum wage — minimal impact?

businesses would be unaffected because although their wage bills would rise, so would their competitors', so they could all raise their prices. In that case, their businesses might be unaffected, but their customers would not.

Surely the whole point of the minimum wage is that it should affect something, namely the wages of people at the bottom end of the income scale. And to imagine that it is possible to engineer such an effect without affecting something else is the economics of the Sunday school.

So the focus should be on those

businesses that would be affected by a minimum wage. How would they react? Would any adverse consequences offset the gain to those enjoying increased incomes? At its simplest, who pays? Of course, those who support

gains to low wage earners would accrue at the expense of profits which, in the spirit of 1066 And All That, are "A Bad Thing". But the danger is that those businesses that are sensitive to the minimum wage will respond by cutting jobs. In that case, those at the bottom of the income distribution who kept their jobs would have gained at the expense of others, also at the bottom, who would have jost.

The scale of such an effect depends crucially on the level at which the minimum is set. It would be possible to use the imposition of a minimum wage at a low level to make a grand social statement of values without doing much direct economic harm. But once the minimum was established, it would pose serious dangers for the future — and



precisely because of the nature of the social statement. It is essentially saying that prices (in this case, the price of labour) are part of the world of justice and fairness and not simply the signalling mecha-nism that makes the market system work. It is a harkback to the medieval concept of "the just

BOOTLE

variation that the flexibility of the free market would exploit the difference in the market worth of different individuals; the change in the market value of labour over time; and the regional variation in the market value of labour. But the real danger with the minimum wage is an indirect one. It would politicise decisions about wages. and would, thereby, threaten a return to the political wrangling about wages that was so debilitating in the Seventies.

Is there nothing for it? There are two reasonable economic arguments. The first is deliciously ironic. In some circumstances, the imposition of a minimum wage will actually create jobs as em-ployers will no longer be faced with the danger of bidding up the price of labour against themto follow, but economics textbooks are full of things like this. Any real-world examples on a postcard to me, please).

The second is that in some cases, whether because of physical isolation or ignorance or fear, workers think that they have little choice but to work for a single employer who takes full advantage of this to the direct benefit of profit. In other words, the competitive labour market does not work. There are some cases of this sort and there were surely far more in the past. But imposing a national minimum wage to tackle this would be like taking a sledgeham-

mer to crack a nut. One of the worst arguments for the minimum wage is that other countries have one. How much damage they suffer as a result

varies with the level. In France, a relatively high minimum has probably made a material contribution to the high level of unemployment.

In the US, the comparatively low level of the minimum has left little impact on the labour market. But the recent increase from \$4.25 to \$4.75 an hour is starting to have an impact on the level of labour costs, and this may have implications for inflation and interest

The minimum wage belongs to the God, Motherhood and Apple Pie School of Economies. Good intentions are supposed to conquer all. The reality is sadly different. Those of us who worry about the implications are left hoping that if a minimum wage is imposed, it would be set so low as to have only totemic significance. But this would leave something of a problem of presentation for the politicians. Imagine the rallying call: "Support the minimum wage. It leaves everything unaffected!"

Billions of excise duty at risk in Euro-court tussle

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN BRUSSELS

BILLIONS of pounds of income from excise duty are at risk if the Government loses a case now being considered by the European Court of Justice

in Luxembourg.

A company that imported cigarettes from Luxembourg. where they are 40 per cent cheaper, without paying UK excise duty is challenging the UK in the court.

The Enlightened Tobacco Company argues it was acting as an "agent" for private individuals when it imported cigarettes, paying excise duty only in the country of origin. It claims its activities were legal under a 1992 EU directive on the movement of goods subject to duty. The Government says

the operation was an abuse of allowances designed to enable travellers to import up to 800 cigarettes at one time, paying duty in the country of origin.

Most member states are behind the UK. The European Commission said the question of who transported the items was a side issue but the company was still in breach of the directive because its operation was a commercial not private one and, therefore, excise duty was payable in country of destination.

BJ Cunningham, director of the company, set up the scheme in November 1994 when he found it difficult to distribute the company's own brand of Death cigarettes

through traditional channels. Clients would place orders with a subsidiary in the UK called the Man in Black, trading as Tobacco Direct, which would transfer them to another subsidiary in Luxembourg, called EMU Sarl, which would purchase the cigarettes and send them to the clients' homes.

In its last month of trading the company recorded £350,000 in turnover and had more than 3,000 active clients. Customs and Excise seized the company's consignments almost immediately it began the scheme. The Enlightened Tobacco Company took the Customs and Excise to the High Court in May 1995 and lost. It went to the Court of Appeal. which immediately referred the case to the Luxembourg

Mr Cunningham insists he was acting legally. "In law we are 100 per cent correct. Europe means the freedom of movement of goods and people. I do not see why my tax should be going to the Government. I do not see why I can't shop abroad and get the same benefits as other

Imperial Tobacco, which intervened in the case on the side of the UK, says that £10 billion of government revenue from value-added tax and excise duty on tobacco is at stake.

The Attorney-General will

The launch of a weekly version of *Lloyd's List* in Japanese is marked by a team of executives from LLP, the title's publisher, from left, David Gilbertson, Michael Gray, John Quilter and Bob James, with translator Takashi Furukawa Firms relaxed over outcome of election

A HUGE majority of UK businesses feel that a change of government would either make no difference to their prospects or that they would be more successful if the government changed according to a Reed

Personnel Services survey. The recruitment specialist surveyed 748 organisations and found that 63 per cent said that a change of government would make no difference. 15 per cent felt that they would be more successful under Labour, with only 18

seeks more state aid

BY OLIVER AUGUST

Aerospace industry

THE aerospace industry has said: "This programme is challenged the next govern- urgently required. Without ment to grant an extra £100 million a year for research and development. Directors of the main aerospace companies fear that without state aid Britain will suffer a damaging setback in international

competitiveness. The Society of British Aerospace Companies has launched an initiative called Foresight Action, which sets out specific uses for the government funds. The SBAC

government support, Foresight Action will not be of a sufficient scale to make a difference to future performance and the decline will

continue." The Ministry of Defence has agreed to an extra £20 million research grant for the aero-space industry for 1997. The Department of Trade and industry was also approached by the SBAC but so far has

made no pledge.

Criticism of Cowie over director

Cowie, the transport group, has been attacked for trying to oust Neil Pykett, its longserving director, while refus-ing to give details of its allegations against him.

Cowie is asking share-holders to vote him off its board purely on the ground that other directors find him guilty of "misconduct". It privately says he hoped to become chief executive, but decided to resign when it became clear it would not happen, and is not accused of financial wrong.

Anne Simpson, of Pirc, the ethical investment lobby group, said Cowie had violat-ed shareholder democracy by failing to put Mr Pykett's case.

BT confident

BT said it was confident its merger with MCI will go ahead as planned. The Commons trade committee has recommended that Oftel look into the potential relationship between BT and The News Corporation, after the pro-posed merger of BT with MCI, which owns a stake in News Corp, parent company of The Times. BT said disposing of the stake was only one option raised by the MPs.

Hermes advice

Hermes Investment Management, the pension fund manager, says it will normally support companies against hostile hids, but there should be at least three fully independent non-executive directors.

Bass file due

A Monopolies Commission report on the takeover of Carlsberg-Tetley by Bass is ex-pected at the Department of Trade and Industry today. Bass fears tough conditions will be imposed, but yesterday denied it would scrap the deal.

UK companies told to prepare for EMU

By Graham Searjeant, financial editor

BRITISH companies must UK to be in the first wave of prepare now for Europe's countries set to start monemonetary union even if the tary union in 1999. But it UK stays out, a report from could be in a second wave directors argues.

found that apart from obvious money and cash implications, the move would lead to costly changes in anything from retail pack sizes to sources of corporate finance. Few UK firms expect the

the 100 Group of finance that would introduce the euro in cash payments in The group, in conjunction with KPMG, the accountant, period of changeover, when period of changeover, when the euro and sterling would both be in circulation, would be particularly troublesome. The Single European Currency: a practical guide. (Ref number 5631) £25 from KPMG. Phone 01923-214807.

deliver his opinion on April 17. which will be influential when the court makes its final ruling

TOURIST

RATES

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prospects. According to the Institute of Management, only 40 per cent of company managers say the back the Tories, down from 62 per cent at the last election. A Centre for Economics and

Business Research report says the UK is set for at least two more years of steady growth, whoever wins the election. It forecasts growth above 3 per cent this year and next and unemployment falling below 1.5 million by the end of 1998.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 38

(a) A supper and night's entertainment due to the lord from his feudal tenant. From the Irish cuid oidhche. And (b), a room or cabin in a large ship abaft and under the roundhouse, in which the officers and cabin-passengers take their meals. Cf. the Dutch kajuit. And (c) a donkey, as in cuddy ass in Scotland. Hence, a stupid fellow, an ass. CULCH

(a) The mass of stones, old shells, and other hard material, of which an oyster-bed is formed. From the Old French culche a couch, bed, layer or stratum, "Paved with stones, old shells, and any other hard substances, so as to form a bed for the oysters, which would be choked in soft mud. This material is called culch."

CULLIS (a) A strong broth, made of meat, fowl, etc., boiled and strained; used especially as a nourishing food for sick persons. Beef-tea is a well-known form. By way of Old French from the Latin coldre to strain. flow through, glide. Also (b), a gutter, groove or channel, also attributively, as in cullis roof.

(c) The position of a culvert, villainage. Forfeiture and degradation to the position of villain or serf. From the Old French and medieval Latin culvertagium. "The King of France summoned all his vassals, under the penalty of felony, and the opprobrious name of Culvertage, to attend in this expedition."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE I Rve9 dve5 2 Be4+ Kh8 3 Ng6+ hxg6 4 RhI+ and mates

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

U\$ dollar 1.6038 (+0.0026) German mark 2.6997 (-0 0215) Exchange index 96.7 (-05) Bank of England official crose (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2822.7 (-107.5) **FTSE 100** 4254.8 (-169.5) New York Dow Jones 6804.79 (-130.67) Tokyo Nikkei Avge 18633 16 (+709.52)

Training Video **BUSINESS FOR SALE**

A comprehensive range of over 100 training videos is available for sale for the territory of the U.K. and/or Europe.

These videos are well-known in the U.K. and are from a prominent Australian production company, VIDEO COMMUNICATORS, who are now concentrating their hards on their television production business.

The cideos are mostly dramatised, featuring well-known Australian actors in a wide variety of situations.

It is envisaged that a once only fee will be paid for the titles and no further royalties will be due. The General Manager will be in England in the month of April to talk to prospertive purchasers.

For more information, please fax Banksin Productions on 61 8 8239 2353 or ring Wilson Main on 61 8 8239 2366.

The Norwich Union Life Insurance Society

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of this Society will be held at The London Arena, 36 Limeharbour, London E14 97H at 11.00am on 18 April 1997 to consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as a special resolution:

Special Resolution Dept.

fat the Solution proposal sucreamed in the circular to policyholders of the Society dated 20 March 1997 and set out in the documents referred to at the end of section 6 of Part 7 of it (together called the "Documents") be approved and the Directors of the Society be authorised to take all such action as they deem appropriate to carry the flotation proposal into effect and, in particular. (1) the terms of the schemes under which the long term insurance business of the Society is to be transferred in accordance with the arrangements set out in the Documents be approved, subject to such modifications of or additions to any of them as are made in accordance

(2) the basis set out in the Documents upon which ordinary shares in the capital of Norwich Union pic are to be usued or conditionally allotted be approved, subject to such modifications or additions (if any) to such basis, as are made in accordance with the terms of the

(b) the Articles of Association of the Society be amended (1) by the addition, at this ead of the definition of a "member" in Article 1(a) of the following words: "Subject as provided below, the expression "member shall take include:

(i) any person who was a member of the Society at the opening of business on 18th April 1997 (the "Effective Time") or who, being entitled to be a member at the Effective Time, thereafter agrees to become a member of the Society;

(II) the personal representative (or, where there is more than one, the personal representative nominated by all of them in writing) of any person mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) above or ol any person who was entitled to be a member at the Effective Time and in eigher case who dies after the Effective Time, being Such a personal representative who agrees to become a member of the Society;

motivities assisting that any such person ceases to salisfy the requirements for membership set out in sub-paragraph (1), (2) or (3) above after the Effective Time or, on the case of a personal representativ notwithstanding that he more satisfied any of those

PROVIDED THAT

(a) each such person shall cease to be, or to be entitled to be, a member of the Society upon the

The above resolution will, if passed, sanction the proposals, for the Soleton of Moneich Union. These proposals involve the stansier, subject to the approval of the High Court, of the exacting

business (including the policy liabilities) at The Norwich Union Life treatments Society ("the Society") to companies which, along with the Society, will become wholly-owned substitutes of Morwich Union pic., a new holding company to be listed on the London Stock Enchange, Under the proposals, the membership rights of policyholders on 18 April 1997 will be replaced by stores in Norwich Union plc pc, in the case of cartalli overseas esidents and person scheme invoters, the cash ecurvalent value of those pharps. Policytolders with are to receive shares at toreach Union pic etil piso be able to subscribe, on preference

scheme ("the Scheme") for the transfer of long term insurance business of the Society filed with the High Court of Justice in England on 5th March 1997 becoming effective and upon the ordinary shares in the capital of Norwich Union pic being admitted to the Official List of the London St Dechange: and

(b) if the Scheme shall not have become effective on or prior to 31st December 1997 or such later date as the Society may approve and the High Court of Justice in England may allow, each such person shall thereafter cause to be artifuled to be a member of the Society, if he does not then fulfil, or once he does not thereafter fulfil, the requirements for membership set out in sub-paragraph (1), (2) or (3) above; and (c) these provisions shall not affect the right of the

Directors to admit any person to membership pursuant to the provisions of Article 1(b)(3) after the Effective Time."

(2) by the addrhon of a new Article B7 in the following

*87. If the Society shall be wound up, the liquidator shall, with the sanction of an ediziondriary resolution of the Society and subject to any other sanction or direction required by law, distribute amongst the members of the Society such of its assets as are available for distribution in such manner as the exhaptionary resolution shall prescribe."

(c) subject to the Scheme becoming effective and the ordinarshares of Norwich Union pic being admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange

(f) the Society be re-registered as a company limited by shores pursuant to section 51 of the Companies Act 1985 with an authorised share copital of 100 shares of £1 each, all of which shall be issued to Norwich Umon Life & Pensions Limited on such terms as the Directors of the Society may determine;

(ii) the name of the Society be changed to The Norwich Union Life Insurance Company Limited; and (iii) the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society be amended so as 16 be in the form tabled at the Meeting and initialled by the Chairman for the

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD Graham Jones, Secretary B Surrey Street Nameth NET 3NG

24 March 1997

lants, for futher glaves in the public share subscription offer which will be made to race the cooleal required to implement in promote.

Further information relating to the proposals (including the curcular referred to in the Special Resolution set out above) and to the meeting has been mailed to members, together with voting forms. All voting forms should be returned in the reply envelope or by post to Monwich Union Scrumwers PO Brox 404. Leads LS1 1SJ, Greet Britain or by hand to Norwich Union Scrubneers, Manston Lane, Crossweles, Leeds LS1 58AH, Great Britain. Members who require further attermation (or who do not duly receive the mailting) are invited to telephone 0645 444818 (if phoning from the UK) or ++44 541 501020 (a phoning from outside the UK)



Savings RATES OF INTEREST iffective from 24th March 1997

	% p.s.	% p.a.
Direct Premium Account		
Annual Interest		
£1,000 - £9,999	4.60	3.84
£10,000 - £24,999	5.10	4.06
£25,000 +	5.35	4.28
Monthly Income		
£10,000 - £24,999	4.95	9.96
£25,000 +	5.15	4.12
Direct Notice Account		
Annual Interest		
£1,000 - £9,999	5.10	4.06
£10,000 - £24,999	5.45	4.36
£25,000 +	5.65	4.52
Monthly Income	 _	4.00
£10,000 - £24,999	5.25	4.20
£25,000 +	5,45	4.35
Direct 50 Account Palage makes to re-	izetalori)	
Annual Interest		
£5.000 - £14,999	5.60	4.48
£15.000 - £29,999	6.05	4.84
£30,000 - £49,999	6,30	5.04
£50,000 +	6.55	5.24
Monthly Income		
£15,000 - £29,999	5.85	4.68
£30,000 - £49,999	6.05	1.84
£50.000 +	6.30	5.04
Direct 90 Account Polices active to me	(TROMOTE)	
Annual Interest		
£15,000 - £29,999	6.20	4.96
£15,000 - £23,959 £30,000 - £49,999	6.60	5.28
	6.70	5.36
250,000 +	+	
Monthly income	6.00	4.80
£15.000 - £29,999	6.40	5.12
£30,000 - £48,999		5.20
£50,000 +	6.50	0.20
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For Inil details please ring Direct Savings Helpline on 0345 247 247

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Why Britain cannot afford Table talk and fine food to ditch Tory revolution



William Waldegrave believes our children will weep if Labour is returned to power and Britain turns away from the future

n the mid-1970s, Britain seemed set on an inexorable course towards economic, political and social collapse. Serious people predicted revolution and the collapse of our institutions. Militant unions brought down one Government and held another to ransom. The fashionable question was "Is Britain governable?" - and the fashionable answer was "no". The mood was encapsulated

by Peter Jay, who was then economics editor of The Times. In his Wincott Memorial Lecture in December 1975 he predicted that present arrangements would lead inexo-rably to anarchy followed by a "strongman". Britain was to go the way of Italy in the 1920s and Germany in the 1930s.

Underlying the panic lay some hard and desperate numbers, to which Peter Jay had directed the attention of the nation in a series of articles earlier in the year. In his piece Tour des cycles" of May 1975 he summarised the economic helterskelter ride to ruin down which Britain was sliding. In every downturn of the economy, our unemployment was getting worse than in the previous trough. In every recovery, our inflation peaked higher - and thereby led on to each unemployment trough being deeper than the last. In a worsening see-saw, alternately the nation's savings and the nation's jobs were being progressively destroyed.

And then came 1979 and the Conservatives. To be perfectly fair. Peter Jay and perhaps, through his influence, his then father-in-law, the Prime Minister, James Callaghan, began themselves to contribute to the revolution of ideas that led to the Conservative victory. The then economics editor of The Times not only analysed the causes of the crisis, but contributed to the shift of econom-

Because solve it the Conservatives did. The first chart is irrefutable evidence of that historic fact — which ensures a place in history for Lady Thatcher, Lord Howe and Lord Lawson, but no less for John Major, Chris INFLATION: NATIONAL SOURCES Percentage change on a year earlier Components and coverage not uniform across cou Percentage of total labour worldorce

Patten and Ken Clarke. As confirmed by the Europeanwide figures out earlier this month. Britain has rejoined the low inflation pack that we left in the 1960s - having had, over the previous 150 years, a record as good as any.

On unemployment (see chart two), our achievement has been even more astonishing, because we have not only reversed our upward trend, but we have

done so at a time when France and Germany have failed to do the same in the face of the same problem. To put it another way, Britain has dealt with its longterm inflation problem at the same time as making a radical improvement in the long-term unemployment

erating inflation rate of unemployment (Nairu), at a time when others have failed to do so. This is what the Thatcher-Major Governments have done. Peter Jay did not exaggerate the impending collapse when he wrote in 1975. The Conservatives did save our country. It did hurt, but it has worked. It was not done just by getting macroeconomic policy right. Indeed, I believe that t was overconfidence in the efficacy of rival macroeconompanaceas that bedevilled Britain in the 1960s and 1970s. It was done by changing the real economy. Here are just three more fundamental sta-

Lour des cycles . . .

From The Times of May 8, 1975 tistics that show what hap-

pened in Britain in the 1990s. only countries in the industrialised world to achieve an improvement in the productivity of our capital. This was partly as a result of privatisation. When politicians, civil servants, nationalised industry bosses and union leaders made investment decisions, we got the AGR, the SGHWR, the tilting train. Concorde and the system X telephone exchange. It would have been quicker to have made a larger pile of £50 notes and burnt them. Now we have more modesty

in Whitehall: and investment decisions in privatised industry aimed at securing a return for the shareholders by meeting customer

> needs. Secondly, in industry more widely, the Thatcher-Major Govemments returned authority to management with the result that the country with one of the worst strike records in the 1960s and 1970s now has one

of the best. The result of these and other fundamental supply tax system designed to produce incentives, abolition of exchange controls, reform of Government bureaucracy, detions and financial services), taken together with the stabilisation of the economy ---

decline stopped.

Over the last international cycle (that of 1982-93), only Japan among G7 countries outpaced the UK in terms of GDP per capita growth; we have grown faster than both France and Germany in each of the last four years, and we are set to beat them again, this year and next.

If we keep this progress going, if we do not let the trend reverse again, we will soon close the gap that opened after the Second World War. This is the future that must be protected. Of course, there have been mistakes. Of course, we have sometimes been blown off course. But the change of direction is clear.

We have, for once, led the way. Germany, in particular, will, I am sure, soon rediscover the liberal economic roots of her postwar miracle - as the has already done — and free herself from the shackles that are at present holding her back. A good thing that will be for all of us. But for once Britain is ahead of the game. Partly because we got things even more wrong in the 1960s and 1970s than most, we were compelled to be the first to find our way back to sanity. But others will follow - indeed are following — though at present. it has to be said too many in Europe are still leading their people into the killing ground of ever-higher unemployment.

o, faced with all this what does Labour do? With its unparalleled skill in picking up the wrong ideas at the wrong time (pacifist CND members when the USSR was really danger ous in 1983 - belligeren nuclear warriors now that the Soviet Union has collapsed; great defenders of trade union barons when they held the country to ransom in the 1970s jockeying to stand on the corpse now that the Conservatives have slain that dragon). Labour now wants to take us back into Social Democracy. circa 1980, in, say, Sweden. Social chapter, politicised pay bargaining, regional invest-ment banks, special taxes on profitable industries, stakeholding pensions - the

whole for. If Britain loses her nerve and goes back to all that, it will be hard to know whether to laugh or ween. But succeeding generations would know: they would know that Britain had turned away from the future; they would think we had lost our nerve just when the prize children would see our grand refusal as tragic. Preventing that tragedy is the Conserva tives' job in this general

☐ William Waldegrave, MP, is Chief Secretary to the

TELEVISION CHOICE

Channel 4.12.30pm

Daytime television tends to have a less than flattering image, which is why each new daytime show tries to convince us that it is different. Light Lunch goes out live five days a week. The producer. Henrietta Conrad, calls it "groundbreaking". But she would hardly admit that it was not. Presented by Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins, a stand-up comedy act, it is a sort of chat show round the hunch table. Each day a different chef (today it is Albert Roux and his son Michel, but it could be a sthool dinner land memores a meal for four to six school dinner lady) prepares a meal for four to six guests. The provisional list of diners includes David Hasselhoff, Paula Yates, Ruby Wax and Ben Elion, but there will be non-celebrities as well. The chat takes place before a studio audience, with music from a resident band, and viewers will be able to participate by fax, phone or e-mail.

The Sci Files: Cyber War BBC2_7_30om

Vanessa Collingridge's report about computer hacking may not say anything very new, but it certainly is frightening. The argument is simple. Computer technology has shrunk the planet, enabling the world to be connected up in a global conditions the world to be connected up in a global conditions. Web. But putting all this information into cyberspace means that it is vulnerable to attack. According to one pundit, ten backers could bring According to one purious, iear material status that the American economy to a standstill. The military experience is not reassuring. During the Gulf War hundreds of American files were stolen by Dutch hackers and reportedly offered for sale to Saddam Hussein. In 1995 alone the Pentagon computers were hacked into a quarter of a million times. Nobody mentions the obvious answer, which is to stop storing sensitive information on computers. But that would be like giving up the motor car and going back to the stagecoach.

Cutting Edge: The Dinner Party Channel 4, 9.00pm

Voices of Sport

This is a programme that has received so much advance publicity that you may feel you have seen it already. So let us start with the facts, Paul Watson, who made the acerbic Sylvania Waters, decided, with the general election approaching, to

Albert Roux is guest chef (C4, 12.30pm)

get away from political soundbites and test grassroots opinion among ordinary voters. His idea was to film a dinner party and he advertised idea was to film a dinner party and he advertised in the press for volunteers. His cameras ended up at a meal in East Anglia, where most of the diners had voted Conservative last time. What has hit the headlines is the extremity of some of their views. particularly on blacks, homosexuals and the poor. Watson has been accused of making propaganda for the Labour Party. Some of the dinner guests say their remarks have been taken out of context. Here at last is the programme, hidge for yourself. at last is the programme. Judge for yourself.

Channel 4, Midnight

For the last of his late-night discussions Jon Ronson turns to cryptozoology. Unlike real zoology it deals with animals that belong to the realms of myth or magic. One rationale of the cryptozoologist is that creatures once dismissed as travellers' tales is that creatures once dismissed as travellers' laies have turned out to be real. The mountain gorilla is one and the giant squid another. But the absence of scientific proof is no deterrent to belief. Two of tonight's contributors are convinced of the existence of the owl-man, a feathered humanoid which has frequently been spotted in a small area of Cornwall. Nobody will bet against the existence of the yet or the chance of a puma roaming the New Forest. You do not have to agree to enjoy the discussion, while wondering why the show is being

The annual dishing out of Hollywood Oscars has become an event so large in itself that it cannot be long before the coverage by one network or another wins a broadcasting award. The eight-hour time difference between London and Los Angeles meant

that the BBC used to cover the Oscars in news programmes plus a highlights package the next day. Now both radio and television invite us to stay up all night and hear the awards live. Richard Dallyn, the presenter, is joined by Nelson Aspen, who is described as a "celebrity analyst". I am not appropriately the present that he is a essentiation of

possibly a showbusiness reporter but in Hollywood these two jobs can often be

RADIO CHOICE

Up All Night Radio 5 Live, 200am

Sports commentators on radio and television have enjoyed such a heightened profile over the past few years that football broadcasting has joined cricket in encouraging some of the biggest names in sport to take up media cureers: Gary Lineker, Alan Hansen. David Gower and Geoffrey Boycott to name just a few. But Peter Jones was nurtured by the BBC using older precepts and he was one of the more self-efficing of commentators. Yet in 1990 Jones, sadly, became bigger news than the event he was covering when he suffered a fatal stroke during the Boat Race. This programme recalls that awful day and the varied career of the former schoolteacher who became one of the best all-round commentators of his generation. Sports commentators on radio and television have

RADIO 1

7.00mm Mark Radolffe 9.00 Devid Pearce 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 8.15 Newbeat 6.30 Evening Session 6.30 Andy Kershaw 10.30 Mary Ann Hobbs 1.00mm Claire Sturgess 4.00 Clive Warren

6.00mm Nick Barrackouth 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Alex Lester 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Stewe Wright at the Movies 7.30 Malcolm Laycock 8.30 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lybeton 10.00 Vaudeville Raci-Hox and Blue 10.30 The Jayransom 12.00mm Stews Maddon 2.00 Charms Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakest Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Middley with Mair 2.00 Ruscos on Five 4.00 Netionwide 7.00 News Eura 7.35 Votoes of Sport. See Choice 8.00 The Monday Match: Arsenel v Liverpool 10.00 News Talk 11.00 Nghit Eura 12.00 After Hours 2,00am Up Al

WORLD SERVICE All times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30cm Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Red Dwarf (8/12) 7.30 Vintage Chart Bloc £.10 Warter of Falls 4.75 Via Dokumar £.05 Business 9.15 Anything Goes 9.45 Sport 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Red Dwarf (8/12) 11.30 Christope 2.05 Dustook 2.30 John Peel 3.05 Sport 3.15 Learning World 3.30 Christope 2.30 Sport 3.15 Learning World 3.30 Christope 3.30 Business 8.45 Sport 6.30 Just a Minute 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multifract 9.05 Business 8.15 British Today 9.30 Moment That Changed Our World 9.45 Finit on the Scene 10.30 World That Changed Our World 9.45 First on the Scane 10.30 World That Crist gue 11.10 Take Five 11.16 Record News 11.30 Multirack 12.30am Globel Concerns 12.46 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.85 Words of Feith 2.30 Omnibus 3.15 Sport 3.30 Mendian 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00mm Mark Griffiths 5.00 Miles Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Margaret Howard 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jernie Crick 7.00 Classic Newshigh! 7.30 Sonata 8.00 Evening Concert Includes Donisatili, Rossini and Mozart 10.00 Michael Mappin 10.00mm Michael Mappin

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore, Includes Reicha (Clairhet Quintet in B fiat); Dowland (The Frog Geiffierd; Come Away; Le Mis Berbara)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday, Includes Beethoven (Overture: Coriclan); Protoniar Violin Concerto No 1); Hayoft (Symphony No 72 in D)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Edward Bleiseman, Includes Jacob van Eyck (Daphnel); Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No 1); Strauss (Four Symphonic Interfudes, Intermezzo)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Wolfgang Arnadeus Mozart, with Richard Wigmore

1.00pm News; BBC Lunchtime Concert, Live Inom St. John's, Smith Souars, London, Guildriall String Ensemble perform Dvořák, orch Suk (Cypresses); Bertok (Two Romanian Folk Dances)

2.00 From the Proms (f)

3.45 Volces (Schubertised), Iain Burnside presenta a programme of Schubertieder to poems by Goethe and Mayrhofer, given as part of a recital at the 1995 Feldkirche Schubertade by the bertione Matthas Gome and the pianist Graham Johnson

Matthais Gome and the plantst Graham Johnson 4,30 The Bartione Samphone (4/5) (r)

5.00 Music Machine. Caroline Swinburne explores the

8.00 Muele Mechine. Caroline Swinburne explores the music of Zambia and Zimbabwe

8.15 in Tune, with Andrew Green. Includes Vaughen Wilsems (Overture: The Waspe); Bech (Chaconne, Partita No 2 in D minor, BW1004)

7.30 EBU Early Music Series. From the de Singel Concert Heil, Antwerp, Bech (Mass in B minor, BMV232, pert 1) 8.25 Bech the Recycler George Prutt illusprate Bach's redevelopment of his existing compositions in the B minor Mass and plays familiar passages as they were originally heard 8.45 Concert, part 2. Bech (Mass in B minor, BWV232, pert 2)

9.55 Christopher Logue's True Story. A five-part ractio autobiography

10.15 Membra Jesu Noetri, by Dietrich Bustehude. Tonight's except is Ad manus and Alam Howard reads William Alabaster's Upon the Ensignes of Christe's Cructlying (3/7)

Christis's Crucitying (3/7)

11.15 Mbting it, with Merk Russell and Robert Sendell
12.00 Composer of the Week: Henry Cowell
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Feinwesther
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Madeod

S.55am Shipping (I.W) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10
Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today 8.45 The Easter Egg Hunt, by Michelle Roberts (r) 8.58 Weather
S.00 News 9.05 Start the West, with Times columnist Melvyn Bragg and guests
10.00 News; The Lipman Test (FM). Meureen Lipman meets DIY enthusiasts (5/6)

meets DIY enthusiasts (5/6)
10.00 Dally Service (LW) 10.15 Cn This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 Novey Box Live: 0171-580 4444
12.00 News; You and Youre (FM)
12.55 pm Countingolint 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarks
1.40 The Archers (FM) (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; Waterland, by Graham Switt. With Roy
Marsden and Tom Beven (3/3)
3.00 The Alfarnoce Shift. The mathematician Kelth
Devin has new theories on how the mind works
4.00 News 4.05 Katerlatescope. Lynne Walker talks to
the violinist Tasmin Little as she records the Bruch
Vollin Concerto.

4.45 Short Story: The Visit, by Maureen Osborne

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Str O'Clock Home

6.30 Str O'Clock Heres
6.30 The News Cutz, with Simon Hoggart (r)
7.40 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Road Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Oedipus the IGng, by
Sophocles Directed for radio by Peter Hell with
the cast of the Royal National Theatre production.
Translated and adapted by Ranjit Bolt
9.15 Whilippets and Mersupiets, Two house-swappers
from County Durham and Australia write about
their new lives (3/4) (r)

from County Durham and Australia write about their new lives (3/4) (r)

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtimer Reading in the Dark, by Seamus Deans Read by Stephen Rea (1/8)

11.00 The Living World (FM) (3/5) (r)

11.30 Pentidirel (FM) (4/4) (r)

11.30 Recing Pigs and Giant Marrows (LW)

12.00 News and 12.27am approx Weather

12.30am Late Book: The Wasp Factory, by lain Banks. Read by Joseph McFadden (1/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. PM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Pater Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane

THE TIMES



CITY DIARY

Styles to wear Ball's boots

DAVID STYLES will be playing in second-hand boots during tonight's football match in aid of the Romanian Orphanage Trust. The executive director at Goldman Sachs and captain of "The Street" - a team made up of City bond dealers - will be wearing a pair of boots that once belonged to Alan Ball, a member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team and a former Everton midfielder. As a good luck gesture for the game against "Clients", a team of international money and pension managers, a fellow Everton supporter sent Styles the unusual white boots originally worn by Ball.

but, due to peer pressure, hardly wore them," Styles admits. "Unfortunately, Ball's pair are a size too small they might cramp my style."

MCVTITES is cashing in on the National Lottery. On the basis that people splash out on a packet of crackers every eight weeks, and play the National Lottery at least ance a week, the biscuit giant is launching an on-pack promotion to create the UK's first "crackers millionaire".

Señor squad

TONY HALES, chief executive of Allied Domecq, is off to Spain, the beverage company's most important European market — but not to boost company sales. In tow will be 16 soccer-crazy young-



Hales: Lyons coach

sters on tour to Torremolinos and Malaga to do battle with five local teams. For the past couple of years, Hales, a lifelong Aston Villa supporter, has been coaching Armscote Lyons FC, made up of budding Dwight Yorkes from south Warwickshire, including his three sons. David, 14. is team captain; Michael and Robert, his 12-year-old twins, play in defence. Meanwhile, Mrs Hales is off to Tenerife, accompanied by their 18-yearold daughter.

Grounded

MONEY men from Warburgs were left on the runway after a trip to America went awry. It was meant to be a jamboree to Florida, dressed up as a chance for the derivatives department to bond. But as it turned out, the flight was overbooked, and two thirds of the party were left waiting at the airport. Fed up with hanging around for the next flight, and determined not to be rerouted via Nova Scotia, an

irate group turned tail. Not such good news for Virgin, was only recently preferred airline.

Cup of woe LET'S hope Global Group's

prelims, announced today, bring a smile to the chairman's face. Ken Manley, a devotee of the turf, took a rare day off recently to watch the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Runners and riders aside. It gave him a chance to see the food group's mobile catering karts in action. They did a record trade, but Manley was left out of pocket. "I've got a leg in Wisley Won-der which I backed heavily at 66-I. Unfortunately the horse

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Having had the cake, I'd like to eat it again

Il week, the plan had been on New Year's Eve, didn't perthe same. To start the review with Hamish Mac-Beth, one of my great favourites of the moment. But the plan will have to wait. Everything will have to wait... for Have Your Cake and Eat It (BBCI, Saturday and Sunday). It was quite, quite brilliant.

Whether Michael Jackson, the Controller of BBCl, was right to cram four hours of such high quality drama into only two weekends (almost matching the rate at which ITV is getting through its detectives) I do not know. But I do know that next weekend won't be the same without my double dose of Sinead Cusack.

I also know that any man thinking of livening up spring with an extramarital fling will be having very serious second thoughts in the wake of Rob Heyland's beautifully crafted screenplay. If the right hook, delivered on the stoke of midnight suade them, last night's coup de grace, hot coffee poured directly into the errant lap, will.

Small credit for the success of Have Your Cake must go to Paul Abbott, whose not altogether dissimilar serial, Reckless, recently reminded us what good television marital infidelity can produce. But however good Reckless was by the end, Have Your Cake started better and never looked back. Enormous credit for that must go to Paul Seed, the director, who secured terrific performances from every member of his cast and hit barely a duff note throughout.

Having eulogised quite so rapturously, however, it must be said, after Saturday's superlative epi-sode, last night's conclusion did place something of a strain on its credibility as Heyland embarked energetically - and imaginatively - in pursuit of the moral message that his truncated title implied. "Helping deliver your husband's mistress's baby?" observed Nat Dames Bolam). "That'll be something to tell the grandchildren." Wife and mistress brought together by birthing ritual? I didn't buy it for a minute, but by then the whole thing had become so enjoyable that it didn't matter.

inead Cusack, as Charlotte, was outstanding throughout, but it has to be said it was a rare gem of a part, the wronged wife who, when confronted with her husband's infidelity, didn't fall apart but first got empowered and then - finally and fabulously - got even. But she couldn't have done it without wonderful help from Miles Anderson as the ghastly Sam. Holly Aird as the far from fatale other woman. Bolam as her adviserturned-admirer... indeed just about anybody who uttered a single word of Heyland's hardREVIEW



Matthew Bond

working dialogue. Next weekend will simply not be the same. Of course, we'll still have Hamish MacBeth (BBCI) and perhaps by next weekend he'll be back in Lochdubh, rather than gallivanting around the Western Isles solving decades-old mysteries. Solving mysteries is not really what Hamish MacBeth is about. It was, however, last night, with

Constable MacBeth (the excellent

Robert Carlyle) on holiday on the island of Laggan-Laggan and Michael Byrne, but baffling walking into a plot so complicated that I freely admit I'm not absolutely sure what happened in the end. I know these island communities are close-knit, but this one was positively crocheted.

Although the episode did have its lighter moments (staying in a household split by the Roman Catholic/Protestant divide, Mac-Beth prudently opted to be Jewish) and had Caroline Paterson escaping from Albert Square to play the pretty girl without whom no Hamish MacBeth is without, there was something strangely "not right" about it. It was like a story that Daniel Boyle, the writer, had been hanging on to for some time, only to be forced — for whatever reason - into pouring it into a Hamish MacBeth mould for which it was never intended, nor indeed, suited. Lovely performances from a cast that included

nonetheless. As the old roadsign almost says: Haste Ye Back. Hamish... to Lochdubh.

There was another curiosity

15 No 149 W

on ITV, where DCI Barnaby, the latest addition to iTV's apparently endless portfolio of literary detectives, drove straight into Miss Marple land, the preposterously idyllic village of Badger's Drift, where - to nobody's great surprise - everybody had a secret and nothing was quite as it seemed. Unless, of course, you were up on the plot of Tis Pity She's A Whore, in which case you'd probably got Midsomer Murders cracked after 15 minutes.

The rest of us took a while longer, "Why do I get the feeling that everyone is lying to me?" asked Barnaby John Nettles, who certainly had more fun playing Bergerac). "Because they always do," said his wife, taking time off from Delia Smith recipes to remind him of the very foundation stone of detective fiction. Sunday nights — indeed most nights — on ITV would be awfully short if everybody told the truth.

Nettles did a good job of establishing Barnaby as a credible character, but was hindered by a storyline where murders are still solved by the knowledge that the Test match had been rained off on Wednesday (nobody mentioned the fact that Test matches are not played on Wednesdays) or that it was half-day closing in Cawston. and by two very theatrical performances from Elizabeth Spriggs and Richard Cant as the village's far from amateur blackmailers. As for Barnaby's inevitable side-kick. Sergeant Troy, he turned out to be a red herring, which in a story dependent on literary knowledge for its final twist...seemed like

TARREST PARTS 6.00am Business Breakfast (97095) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (92453) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (5881434) 9.20 Style Challenge (4138811) 9.45 Kilroy (4818076)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (11415) 11.00 News (T) and weather (6834873) 11.05 The Realty Useful Show (7446502) 11.35 Change That (8021434) 12.00 News (T) and weather (7988502)

12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5929705) 12,30 Going for a Song Antiques game, hosted by Michael Parkinson (6299873) 12.55 The Weather Show (79360637) 1.00 News (T) and weather (95540)

1.30 Regional News (83030182) 1.40 Neighbours (11334989) 2.05 To Dance with the White Dog (1993) with Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy An elderly man is grief-stricken by the death of his beloved bride after 57 years of merriage, but finds comfort in the company of a stray dog. Directed by

Gienn Jorden (7615347) 3.30 Playdays (5896618) 3.50 Pingu (6251347) 3.55 Bodger and Badger (6569106) 4.10 Gadget Boy (1895908) 4.35 Record Breakers Gold, Last in series (5833095) 5.00 Newsround (T) (3100298) 5.10 Blue Peter (1) (5666499)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (685569) 6.00 News (1) and weather (347) 6.30 Neweroom South East (927)

7.00 This is Your Life (9618) 7.30 Have and New Steve Annelt reports on controversial plans for the amergency services. Plus: Denise Mahoney meets children who suffer from a rare condition in which they feel no pain (811)

8.00 EastEnders Ricky gets caught in the middle of the mystery surrounding 8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart Complications

anny when Phoebe's malher-in-law turns up at the Royal Oak (1) (7873) 9.00 News (T) and weather (2453)

Closed Doors Sarah Barclay examines the abortion issue (1) (590273) 10.10 The Untouchables (1987) Kevin Costner stars as Eliot Ness, the crusading federal agent leading the bettle against police corruption and underworld crime in 1920s Chicago, With Sean Connery, Robert De Niro and Andy Garcia. Directed by Brian De Paima (611665) WALES: 10.10 The Siste (762279) 10.40 A Parent's Guide (392057) 10.55 FiLM: The Untouchables (18660231) 12.50 Under the influence

(3001380) 1.05 FILM: Crosspiot (240835) 12.05em Under the Influence Sophie Aldred continues to examine the influence of Christianity in Britain (7416835) 12.20 Crossplot (1989) with Roger Moore and

Martha Hyar. A mild-mannered adver-tising executive unwittingly gets caught up in an espionage ring after being handed an uncompleted crossword puzzle by a dyling man. Directed by Alvin Rakoll (344564)

1.55 Weather (3305767)

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3362 6,00am Open University: From Child to Pupil (7817434) 6.25 How We Study Children (T) (7836569) 6.50 An English Accent (9668298) 7.15 News (T)

Accent (9668298) 7.15 News (T) (7730989) 7.30 Secret Life of Toys (3251892) 7.45 Wacky Races (t) (8589786) 8.10 Blue Peter (t) (T) (5371366) 8.35 Bem (5557989) 9.00 Activ-8 (t) (T) (13873) 9.30 Sweet Valley High (t) (5070144) 9.55 Calve Doke (t) (7696927) 10.10 Playdays (9034182) 10.30 Bahar (t) (19057) 10.30 Babar (r) (19057)

11.00 Lassie: The Voyager (1986) with Robert
Ray and MacDonald Carey. Lassie
braves a hurricane to give chase to her
master. Directed by Dick Moder and Jack B. Hively (43415)

12.30pm Working Lunch (60279) 1.00 Secret Life of Toys (r) (59985095) 1.15 My Village (81276298)

1.20 Lady in the Lake (1946, b/w) with Robert Montgomery and Audray Totter. A missing person case full of Intrigue and deception for Philip Marlows, Directed by Robert Montgomery (32956298)

3.00 News, Regional News (T) and weather (2454665) 3.05 The Natural World (r) (4557908) 3.85 News (T) (6241960) 4.00 Today's the Day (540) 4.30 Resdy, Steedy, Cook (724) 8.00 Esther (1304) 5.30 Going, Going, Gone (796) 6.00 The Simpsons (882328)

6.25 Space Precinct (r) (T) (665502) 7.10 Electric Circus feetures Wet Wet Wet

7.30 The Sci Files Military and sconomic systems could be attacked by high-tech enemies via the internet (453) 8.00 Motor Month The first of a new senes

Includes toolage of the Vauxhall Rally of Wales (T) (8908) 8.30 Ray Mears's World of Survival: Means learns how to avoid flons while tracking antelopes and how to make a

poison arrow from (ence wire (1) (5415)



Bonnie Bedella za Nancy (9.00pm)

8.00 The Outer Limits: Worlds Apart Sci-fi anthology series. Nancy receives an alarming message from outer space With Bonne Bedelia (T) (802908)

9.45 This Life Warren's ex-lover causes a disturbance at a dinner party. Anne and Miles clash when they are assigned to the same case (T) (821569)

10.28 Video Nation Shorts (719347) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (916521)

11.15 Open to Abuse (347366) 11.45 Close Up (r) (249786) 12.00 The Phil Silvers Show (b/w) (35019)

12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: The Lyonnais (21564) 1.30 Modern Art 2.00 The Oscars live from Los Angeles Ends TO THE PARTY OF TH 6.00am GMTV (6285250) 9.25 Chain Letters (T) (4113502)

9.55 Regional News (T) (5912989) 10.00 The Time, the Place (1) (41231) 10.30 This Morning (41690958) 12.20pm Regional News (T) (7984786)

12.30 News (T) and weather (6224569) 12.55 High Road (T) (6292960) 1,25 Home and Away (T) (47134076) 1,50 Murder, She Wrote (r) (7608182) 2,40 Savannah (r) (1833960)

3.20 News (T) (8959255) 3.25 Regional News (T) (9309796)

3.30 Tots TV (r) (7119845) 3.40 Painbow Days (9358618) 3.50 Goody (3519881) 4.05 Sooty's Amazing Adventures (2169618) 4.20 Snap (1) (1879960) 4.46 Art Attack (T) (5824347)

8.10 Sorted Focusing on bullying (5082163) 5.40 News (i) and weather (828347) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (802182)

6.25 HTV Weather (158908) 6.30 HTV News (T) (845) 7.00 Wish You Were Here? Judith Chalmers

bowls down Route 66 in Arizona. Plus: Martin Roberts embarks on a grand tour of the Greek (slands and John Carter tinds out what makes holidaymakers return to St Ives year after year (1) (4786) 7.30 Coronation Street Alan demonstrates that his love for Floria is as strong as ever

B.00 World In Action An investigation into the off-road rage caused by clamping (T)



Oliver Ford Davies stars (8.30pm)

8.30 Kavanagh QC Favanagh defends British Ambassador's daughter accused of murdering an Australian journalist (T)

10.00 News (T) and weather (21892) 10.30 Regional News (T) (307989) 10.40 Joseph Emidy: The Lost Composer Charling the life of the 19th-century black composer, featuring a performance by paz musician Andy Shepherd (1)

(481250) 11.40 Terrors of the Deep Exploring the real and mythological predators of the oceans and the sea's destructive power (608250) 12.35am Football Extrs (1900354)

1.20 Mainly Man John Leslie returns with a ney salies of the magazine for men with women in mind (4337895) 1.50 Planet Rock Profiles The tormer

Ulasvox Ironiman Midge Ure (8205545)

2.20 Club Nation (i) (4624187) 3.20 God's Gift (r) (2104309)

4.15 Sound Bites (19087458) 4.30 World in Action (f) (T) (94835) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (70767) CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (8292960) 1.50 Blue Heelers (7608182) 2.40 World of Wonder (2250415)

2.50-3.20 High Road (5655908) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5062163)

6.25-7.00 Central News (953279) 10.40 Film: The Plot to Kill Hitter (37791368) 12.25am The Movie Show Special: The Specialist (5233944)

12.50 Profile (3003748) 1.05 Football League Extra (8775380) 1.50 Stand and Deliver (3255748) 2.45 Film: The People Across the Lake

(189106) 4.35 Central Jobfinder '97 (1559390) 5.20 Asian Eye (8894835)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 Gardener's Diary (6292960) 1.50-3,20 Film: Davielle Steel's Palom

(9177786) 5,10-5,40 Home and Away (5062163) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (65724) 10.30 Westpountry News (321569)

10.45 Film; in the Line of Duty -Twilight Murders (1991). An FBI drams starring Rod Steiger, Michael Gross and Christopher Filch. Directed by Dick Lowry

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12,55-1,25 A Country Practice (6292960) 1,50 Down by the River (11332521)

2.20-3.20 Blue Heelera (8472989) 5,10-6,40 Home and Away (5062163) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (415) 6.30-7.00 Country Wave (845) 10.40 The Pier (828521)

11.05 The Listings (57**7**811) 11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (808250) 5.00am Freescreen (70767)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (6292960) 1,50 Blue Heelers (8923705) 2,50-3.20 Jungle on Your Doorstep

(5685908) 5,10-5.40 Shortland Street (5062163) 6.25-7.00 Angila News (953279) 10.30 Anglis News and Weather (321569)

10.45 Film: Fistful of Dollars (18675183) S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (80705) 7.00 The Blg Breakfast (85163) 9.00 Bewitched (48569) 9.30 Film: The Blue Peter (74925540) 11.10 The Legend of White Fang (7461811) 11.40 Pink Panther (8011057) 12.05pm Right to Reply (5912415) 12.30 Ellen (55347) 1.00 Siot Meithrin (88250) 1.30 Film: Yellow Sky (55255144) 3.20 Fresh Pop (2759417) 3.30 Collectors: Lot (873) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1909) 4.30 The Lost Gardens of Hellings (803) (908) 4.30 The Lost Gardens of Heligan (892) 5.00 5 Pump (5892) 5.30 Countdown (144) 6.00 Newyddion (894298) 6.05 Heno (880960) 6.35 Jacpot (165298) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (549521) 7.25 Taro New (385778) 8.00 Ma⁻ (fan 'Ma (1076) 8.30 Newyddion (3811) 9.00 I Dot (6637) 10.00 Sgorio (9724) 11.00 NBA Raw (38397) 12.00-1.40am Film: Little

CHANNEL 4 6.00am Sesame Street (80705) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (85163) 9.00 Bewitched (r) (T)

9.30 The Blue Peter (1955) with Kleron

Moore, Greta Gynt and Sarah Lawson. Comedy-drama about a brainwashed Korean War veteran. Directed by Wolf Rilla (91271724)

11.15 The Legend of White Fang (r) 12.00 Right to Reply (r) (T) (26705)

12.30 CHOICE Light Lunch New series with Albert Roux and his son Michel as guests (7816540) 1.35pm Book (28923960)

1.55 Cattle Empire (1958) with Joel McCres. Gloria Talbot and Don Haggerty A trail boss, having just got out of jail, revens to his bad ways. Directed by Charles Marquis Warren (T) (89614569) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (873) 4.00 Fifteen-To-One (1) (908) 4.30 Countdown (1) (892)

5.00 The Montel Williams Show (1) (5892) 5.30 The Real Holiday Show (1) (1) (144) 6.00 The Cosby Show (r) (1) (647) 6.30 Hollycaks Lucy tries to cheer up Baz and Jambo tries to persuade Mr Gardner to

give him another chance (T) (637) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (172637) 7.55 Betrayal The first of six short films looking at an individual's decision to turn away from triends, family, philosophy or a political cause (901665)

8.00 Stratosfear Judy Leden attempts to glide down to earth from 40,000 ft (r) (1)



Outspoken dinner guests (9.00pm)

9.00 Cutting Edge: The Dinner Party Paul Welson's controversial fly-on-the-wall film, featuring eight loyal Tories from Suffolk as they discuss the past 18 years of Conservative government (1) 6637)

10.00 Dark Skles: The Enemy Within A spy is discovered inside Majestic and John is horrified to find his brother drawn lowards an ation hive (T) (9724)

11.00 NBA Raw Action from the Detroit Pistois v the Chicago Bulls (38397)

12.00 For the Love Of Jon Ronson meats people who search for mythical or "displaced" creatures such as the yetl and pumas roaming England (1) (6578651)

1,05em Jesus Before Christ A.N. Wilson travels to holy sites in largel to find out more about the real Jesus (r) (4581583) 2.05 Harnlet (1969) with Nicol Williamson as the Danish prince and Anthony Hopkins as Claudius. Filmed at the Round House, London, and directed by Tony Richardson (T) (83211477)

4.15 Foot's Gold (1948, b/w) Western adventure with William Boyd playing Hopatong Cassidy (4906800)

5.25 Backdate (r) (T) (7302699)

Channel 5 launches 6pm on Easter Sunday.

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00em Mouning Glory (720873) 9.00 Regis and Nathia Lee (67366) 10.00 Another World (26434) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (40.39) 12.00 the Optan Wintey Show (89.28) 1.00pm Geraldo (98076) 2.00 Sally (19326) 1.00pm Geraldo (98076) 2.00 Safty Jess; Raphaef (75396) 3.00 Jenny Jones (96507) 4.00 The Oprah Wintrey Show (17637) 5.00 Star Trek The Near Generation (5163) 6.00 Real TV (2453) 6.30 Married — with Children (3716) 7.00 The Simpsons (7892) 7.30 MrA*S*H (3989) 8.00 Springfeld (31716) 40 no. Mark Bedera (7892) 7.30 M*A*S*H (3989) 8.00 Springhal (31705) 10.00 Nash Bridges (43540) 11.00 Setha Scott Tonghi (18366) \$11.30 Star Trek. The Next Generation (15163) 12.30sm LAPO (52212) 1.00 Hit Mex Long Play (1566941)

SKY 2 7.00pm Hercules The Legendary Journeys (6598873) 9.00 Srar Trek: Voyager (6507521) 9.00 Polargest The Legacy (6594527) 10.00 The Outer Limits (6597144) 11.00 Little Show (6126347)

SKY NEWS Workende news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week SKY MOVIES

6.00em Overboard (1978) (61182) 8.00 6.00em Overboard (1978) (81182) 8.00 Two for the Road (1967) (93618) 10.00 Radioland Murders (1994) (8327) 12.00 Fugitive Fernity (1980) (341927) 1.45pm Lady Jano (1985) (8227152) 4.00 Back Home (1990) (19853415) 5.45 Radioland Murders (1994) (82510705) 7.30 Schind-the-Scenes: Star Wars (4057) 8.00 Highlander III: The Sorceror (1994) (2873) 10.00 Suspicious Agenda (1994) (32163) 11.40 Robin Cook's Mortal Fest (1994) (542705) 1.10am Mr Jones (1993) (332800) 3.00 Next Door (1995) (218477) (332900) 3.00 Next Door (1995) (218477)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00am A Girl Must Live (1939) (83589) 7.30 Samson and Selly (1935) (162860) 8.40 The Dregon That Wasn't, or Was He? (1935) (2656163) 10.00 Helen of Troy (1956) (38809) 12.00 My Brother's

4.35 Overboard (1978) (33757038) 7.30am Football World Cub Legents (19796) **8.30** Rugby Unon White Cub Sevens (65279) **9.30** ShyJumping (1990) Cup (26057) **10.30** Nortic Combined Shiping

Keeper (1994) (25881) 2.00pm Bandit's Silver Angel (1994) (32434) 4.00 The Dragon That Wasn't, or Was He'r (1995) (9537) 6.00 Johnny's Girl (1995) (52299) 8.00 Six Degrees of Separation (1992) (24415) 10.00 Kiss of Death (1993) (24273) 1.25am The Disoppearance of Vornile (1994) (21762) 3.00 You Talkin'to Me? (1997) (359212) 4.40 Samson and Safly (1995) (1155421) SKY MOVIES GOLD 6.00cm Shepherd of the Hills (1941) (339088) 8.00 Beetlejulce (1998) (3396434) 10.00 Rocky (1976) (7020228) 12.06cm Turk 1821 (1985) (1370372) 1.45 Them! (1954) (2400274) 3.20-5.00 The Letter (1940) (3940632)

- 1 -

9.00pm it Happened at the World's Felt (1963) (92696873) 11.00 The Asphalt Jungle (1950) (81880521) 1.00am Ad-vance to the Rear (1964) (843876327 2.45-5.00 it Happened at the World's Fair (1963) (43974019)

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00am World Sport Special (6398s) 7.30 Beach Volleyball (1990e) 8.30 Racing News (7639g) 9.00 World of Speed and Beauty (90569) 9.30 Asrobics Oz Style (9623) (90569) 9,30 Aerobics Oz Style (96331)
10.00 Rugby League Super League
(16095) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (70705)
12.30pm Football Special (52366) 2,00
Beskettial Leopards v Chesia Jers
(87908) 4,00 World Wirde Rugby (7811)
6,00 Sports Cembre (4827) 6,30 Turtan Euria
(1989) 7,00 Football Arsonal v Leopard —
Live (5917)160) 10,30 Sports Centre (80182)
11,00 Tartan Euria (56340) 11,30 High 5
(45095) 12,00 Football Arsenal v Liverpool
(34903) 2,00am-2,30 Sports Centre

12.00 South Ahrca v Australia — Third Test Live (68100705) 3.30pm Football Lague Review (8927521) 6.00 Retiel Sports (83318085) 6.30 Hept 5 (853-8547) 7.00 Sports Centre (10265960) 7.30 Surres Champonatrips (2900388) 8.30-11.30 Wtestlamania xII (90012250) EUROSPORT

SKY SPORTS 3

(80637) 12.00 NASCAR Chamber this (83750) 1.00pm Rath, Raid --- Raid Gauleses (20298) 2.00 Tenns Lipton Championship (72076) 4.00 Tenns Lipton Championship — Line 1888/600 9.00 Martial Aris (73705) 10.00 Europeah (78892) 11.00-12.30am Shopket Europeah

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystate (483999 7.35 Neighbours (9244569) 8.00 Crostopans (1909144) 8.25 Basi Endern (9210476) 9.00 1906144) 8.26 8.36 Prick 195 0474-800 The Ball (\$772308) 9.30 Prick 195 11.00 Never the Twarn (\$125724) 10.30 This Sullivars (\$744540, 11.00 Paightal (\$1745891) 12.30 pm Naightours (\$579279) 1.00 Paightal (\$175892) 12.30 pm Naightours (\$579279) 1.00 Paightal (\$159571095) 2.05 Paightal (\$100 Pm, \$500 The Bill (2727328) 9.30 Elect "States

GRANADA PLUS

6.00em The Physical Factor (2500250) 6.30 Once Upon a Time 990629999 6.45 Cur Bushyarri (15506724) 7.00 Pricer's (4007057) 7.15 Once Upon a Time (5413521) 7.30 Children - Ward (6465050) 8,00 Classic fluronator litrest 40025571 8,30 Families (4661908) 9,00 Tric Profes sionals (2528298) 10,00 Please Sir (7767347) 10,30 No Horiestit, (4641144) 11.00 Within These Walls (8451395) 12.00 Classic Commoder Street (8668734) 12.30pm Fanalist (531144) 1.00 Craim Court (6452786) 1.30 The Good are Street (7536-15) 2.00 A Family at May 1768(15) 3.00 Up Stairt Downster's (1553(56) 4.00 The Ductor Seney In the House (6777939, 4.30 Pleaso and re79939) 5.00 The 4.30 Pleade Similar Medical 5.00 Tre-Protestionals relationals 6.00 Facilities 1679/1671 6.30 Classes Coronard State 1679/1671 7.00 The Demail Servi (6871103) 7.30 No. — His Lat. (1996/16 8.00 Obstans Demandary 1708/60) 9,00 Classes Coronardor Societ 1578/69 9,30 The Corrections in Coronard 1509/10 10.00-11.00 The Protessionals (72%) 5.39



AND CABLE AND CABLE

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am (C. A. Tracks (4078601) 6.25 Chaeri Str. J. 12-6396 6.50 Bonkers (319-3-6) 7.15 Th. Liniz Mermand (12-1667 7.40 - acular (27)0347 8.05 (151-35) 7 on 1 100 Today (150-35) 8.40 Text Scare (150-36) 1475-5099 8.40 The Curr Scare (150-36) 9.10 Scounding Mars (150-36) 9.40 Big Garage (150-36) 9.55 Lamb Chop (169-1231) 10.25 Mexical States (150-36) 110.50 Counting Carlot (150-36) 110.50 Counting Carlot (150-36) 110.50 Counting Carlot (150-36) 110.50 Counting Carlot (150-36) 110.50 Minuse (150-36) 110.50 10.25 Mescal Batass (15.2331) 10.50 Cumot's Crisis 10.935(8) 11.20 Mouse Tradicipation in 11.50 Mescane to Pooh Coming 17.20 11.50 Mescane to Pooh Coming 17.30 11.50 Mescane to Pooh Coming 17.30 11.235 Inc. Late Martine (15.45 Line 17.30 National Presents (15.45 Line 17.30 National National Presents (15.45 Line 17.30 National Nationa Oscillation 4.30 Foreign (Section 4.35 Foreign (Section 4.35 Foreign (Section 5.35) Purple and Pumbas and Section 5.35 Foreign and Pumbas and Section 5.35 Foreign (Section 5.35) August - 81-5417 **5.25** (mich sichtumber 180765 (* 5.**35** (Carthung Duch (64623)) 6.00 En. Scarte a New Doug (6809) 6.30 En. 10 - 10 and (4031) 7.00 Brotherly 10.5 En. 17.30 FLM: A Mother's Gift 6.244 9.00 Enrichment (41831) 8.30FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts 6.30 Inspector Gadget (7167811) 7.00 Semura Paga Cets

Gadger (7167811) 7.00 Semural Puzza Cells (6) 47227) 7.30 Eagle Ruders (6) (21434) 8.00 Here Turtes (7109076) 8.30 Masked Ruder (7108347) 9.00 Big Bad Bestieborgs (712927) 9.30 Power Rengers Zeo (6931705) 10.00 Casper (7158163) 10.30 Acc Ventura (711811111,00 Life with Coule (2535761) 11.30 The (7551231) 12.00 (2650502) 11.30 The Tick (2651231) 12.00 Cass(42) 11-30 frei fox (256 1231 12300 moredible Hulk (7102163) 12-30 pm Mortal kombal (6595521) 1.00 Highlender (6141258) 1.30 Eagle Ridder (6994826) 2.00 Hero Turtle: (4254705) 2.30 Masked Ridd (1902796) 3.00 Big Bad Beeleborgs (4266540) 3.30 Power Rangers Zeo (8952291) 4.00 Casper (7207183) 4.30 Ace Creative (1007180) 8.00 Septiment

8,00am Anne of Greer, Gobles/Road to Avonies (93231) 7.00 Barman (68057) 7.30 An Arrack (70892) 8.00 Dennis the Menace (41892) 10.00 Romuald the Reindeer (51279) 10.30 Robinson Sucroc (25279) Grayedale High (86076) 12.00 Oscar's Crohestra (61601) 12.30pm Hallway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (36873) 1.00 By the Way of the Stars (87328) 1.30 Btack Beauty (35144) 2.00 Girl tom Tomorrow (7076) 2.30 Ocean Odyssey (5724) 3.00 An Attack (9811) 3.30 Flash Gordon (7569) 4.00 Barman (6076) 4.30-5.00 The Big Dish (5960) CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop canoons from 5.00am to 9.00pm includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Firststones NICKELODEON

6.00em Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (94434) 6.30 Count Duckute (23873) 7.00 Ceptain Simain and the Space Monkeys (54231) 7.30 Tales from the Cryptheeper (73366) 8.00 Bruno the Kid (68960) 8.30 Hey Amold! (67231) 9.00 Rugrats (81811) Hey Amboll (67231) 9.00 Rugrats (81871) 9.30 Rugrats [94873) 10.00 Asabrin' Real Monsters (47453) 10.30 Doug (87095) 11.00 Rocko's Modern Lite (39673) 11.30 Barley happer's Pore of View (30502) 12.00 Karan and Kel (78347) 12.30pm The Secret World of Alex Mack (43219) 1.00 Sister (53602) 1.30 Moesha (97960) 2.00 The Feeds (2502) 2.30 Round the Twist (9750) 3.00 Sickin' Around (1637) 3.30 Asabrin' Real Monsters (2095) 4.00 Doug 11572 4.30 Doug 1.00 Doug (1502) 4.30 Doug (7786) 5.00 Doug (6182) 5.30 Doug (1366) 6.00 Press Gang (8279) 6.30-7.00 Doug (2231)

TROUBLE 12.00 Heartbreak High (2576182) 1.00pm Madison (8076366) 1,30 Sweet Valley High (2563618) 2.00 Hangtme (4046927) 2.30 California Dreams (8145366) 3.00 Byker Grove (4025434) 3.30 Blasi (8140811) 4.00 Sweet Valley High (8196618) 4.30 Hergtime (8125500) 5.00 Saved by the Boll (4037279) 5.30 California Dreams (8143182) 6.00 Byler Grove (8146085) 8.30 Madison (8137347) 7.00-8.00 Hearl-break High (3329908) BRAVO

8.00pm Hobocop (3305328) 9.00 The Burning Zone (3318892) 10.00 Tour of Duty (3328279) 11.00 FRUIL Devil Men (6726724) 1.00mm The Burning Zone (7337336) 2.00 Tour of Duty (8450125) 3.00 FILM: Devil Men (2574729) 5.00 Robocop PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00cm Enterlanment LfK (3618) 7.30

Roseanne (8415) 8.00 Roseanne (2365) 8.30 Monty Python's Plying Circus (1873) 9.00 Cheers (\$6637) 9.30 Tax (18453) 10.00 it's Garry Shendling's Show (79075) 10.30 Frasier (88724) 11.00 in Bed with Me Diriner (54182) 11.30 Monty Python's Plying Circus (43637) 12.00 Nurses (11477) 12.30 mm Soap (\$2800) 1.00 Cheers (38815) 1.30 Text (77293) 2.00 Entertainment UK (99090) 2.30 in Bed with Me Diriner (18125) 3.00 Frasier (41390) 3.30-4.00 it's Garry Shandling's Show (81467) THE SCLFI CHANNEL

8.00pm The Guyver (356)298) 8.30 The Tealght Zone (354)708) 9.00 Sightings (760)724) 9.55 Earthesten (237)904) 10.00 Starmen (427)4289 11.00 The Incredible Huik (921)7309) 1.00 The Incredible Huik (921)7309) 1.00em The Tealight Zone (1711)125) 1.30 Teles of the Unexpected (383)4835) 2.00 100 Years of Homor (61)2039) 2.30 Night Gallery (1952)38) 3.00-4.00 Fricts vite 13th (719)3361 3.00-4.00 Friday the 13th (7195336)

9.00am The Joy of Painting (2753298) 9.30 Gardeners Diary (2568705) 10.00 Two's Country Cooking (4123368) 10.30 Our House (2742182) 11.00 Fix it (528205) 11.30 This Old House (5283724) 12.00 Year Can Cook (2733434) 12.30pm Graham Karr (250521) 1.00 Today's Gaurner (9072540) 1.30 Home Again with Bob Vita (2563892) 2.00 Homeima (4019873) 2.30 Empire in Gr. 48145401 3.00 Tark's

Furniture to Go (8141540) 3.00 Two's Country (4038908) 3.30-4.00 This Old

DISCOVERY 4.00pm Fishing Adventures II (8132992) 4.30 Australia Wild (8138076) 5.00 Treesure Hunters (4033453) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (812928) 6.00 Wild Things (2578540) 7.00 Invention (4020989) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (8139705) 8.00 History's Turning Points (4039637) 8.30 Bush Tursler Man (4018144) 8.00 Lonely Planet (3321366) 10.00 Arthur C Clarke — the Visionery 10.00 Arthur C Clarke — the Visionary (3324453) 11.00 Wings (8068989) 12.00 Classic Wheels (2478748) 1.00em Driving Passions (4148496) 1.30-2.00 The Extrem-

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography Heroes of the Bible (8604298) 5.00 Cod War Journal (3543521) 6.00 Weapone at War (6082365) 7.00-8.00 Biography: General Patton (4275057)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with Prize Time twose on hour 5.05pm Blockbusters (1798144) 5.50 Spellbound (554250) 6.30 Catchphrase (484960) 7.05 Sale of the Century (379724) (484960) 7.05 Sale of the Century (379724) 7.40 Give Un; A Clue (516328) 8.20 All Clued Up (409724) 9.00 Through the Keyhols (798434) 9.35 Busman's Holiday (683163) 10.05 Treasure Hunt (141960) 11.20 Love at First Sight (923076) 12.00 Sale of the Certury (99651) 12.30pm Hart (28038) 1.30 Lou Grant (43583) 2.30 Chrany (99635) 3.30 All Together Now (47651) 4.00 The Fall Gay (60748) 5.00 HSN Direct Shopping (6848496)

UK LIVING

8.00mm Trry Living (2042434) 8.00 Gladrags and Glamour (3861434) 9.15 The Gordon Elect Show (8823640) 18.05 Jerry Springer Uncut (4977366) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (8371065) 11.45 Super Fresco Fabulosious (44758989) 11.50 Brookside (8005083) 12.255pm Take & Living (2009161) 12.55 Temposide Letter (70091618) 12.55 Temposti (3669163) 1.40 Rolonda (9095076) 2.30 The Heat is On (2270960) 3.00 Easter Live Ine Heat is On (22/0940) 3-00 Easier Live at Twee (49679404) 4.05 The Jamy Springer Show (5670927) 5.00 Super Fresco Febulosous (37111540) 5.05 Lingo (84336415) 6:30 Luchy Ladders (2281076) 6.00 I Dreem of Jeanne (6357057) 6.35 Reedy, Steady, Cook (3945076) 7.05 Shookside (1927453) 7.40 Who's Sony Now' (6946453) 8.05 Richorda (8260298) 9.00 SILVE Meter Cod (336727) 11.00. 9.00 Film: Night Owl (3392347) 11.00-12.00 The Sex Files (1470328) ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran 7.30 ZEE Morning 8.30 Out and About 9.00 PBM: Jaag Utha Insaan 11.30 Kurukshetra 12.00 Parampara 12,30pm Dhoop Aut Chaon 1,00 Fil.M: Nachdi Januarii 4,00 ZEE Zone Teer Kameen 6.00 Usha Ulhup Show 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 kite Pe like 7.30 Fille: Chaldon 0.00 News 8.25 Sesset 9.06-12.00 Fille: Skindram

The 24 hour music channel includes news, reviews, five concert footage, interviews and the fatest music video charts The video hits channel. Classic rock and



PAYDAY 45 Roger Bootle on impact of a minimum wage BUSINESS WAY AHEAD 46 UK must not turn says William Waldegrave

MONDAY MARCH 24 1997

Legal pressure may force BAT to bring demerger forward

By MARTIN WALLER

THE growing legal pressure on American tobacco companies is expected to force BAT Industries. owner of Brown & Williamson and the Lucky Strike brand, to bring forward plans for a split between these and its financial services

BAT, which has played down speculation of a demerger in the past, was coming under increasing

even before last week's unexpected surrender by Liggett. maker of Chesterfields and one of the biggest US cigarette producers, to the antitobacco lobby groups.
Now investors are likely to seek a

firm promise of a deadline for hiving off tobacco amid reports that BAT is attempting to create a fighting fund along with other US

pressure from its shareholders believed to have decided internally smokers who contract an illness. However, Martin Broughton, possible co-operative ventures with that demerger could take place by the end of the year. Such a promise would mean a sharp rise for the share price, which ended last week at 494p after managing to shrug off the Liggett announcement.

Liggett unsettled the rest of the industry by admitting for the first time that cigarettes were addictive and offering to turn over a quarter tobacco firms to oppose the escalating legal action. BAT itself is year to a fund that will pay out to

and sue. The industry has always denied any addictive qualities for tobacco and insisted the data in health studies linking smoking with disease are unproven

BAT's tobacco operations, although profitable, have always acted as a drag on the share price because of the possible damage from future litigation, and demerger was being tirmly consid-

BAT's chief executive, has insisted that this or any other deal under consideration would have to be seen to add clear shareholder value before it was considered.

Last summer BAT relaunched its financial services side, which takes in the insurance companies Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar in the UK and Farmers in the U.S. as British American Financial Services. The company has been in talks over

a range of other businesses including Commercial Union, but the existence of the tobacco arm has put off potential joint venture

Meanwhile, the drag on the share price has limited BAT's ability to make straight acquisitions in financial services through the issue of new equity. A demerger would allow that arm to go forward, while a deal with other US tobacco groups to stand their against litigation would their future damages and strengthen the tobacco business once this land been cut free.

BAT is believed to be considering appointing financial advisers to the tobacco side as a precursor ma spar. The group's current brokers are Cazenove and de Zoete & Bevan, owned by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, while its merchant bankers are Lazards and SBC Warburg.

Prospects for jobs at highest in 7 years

By PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PROSPECTS for jobs will be at a seven-year high over the general election period, according to an employment survey from the Manpower employ-

ment agency today.

The survey, which comes after government figures last week that showed a further big drop in unemployment and con-tinuing job growth, sug-gests that for the second quarter of this year job

prospects remain good. Of a sample of more than 2,000 employers, 26 per cent forecast an increase in job levels for the three months ending in June, while 12 per cent predict a fall — a net

balance of 14 per cent. The figure is the most optimistic second-quarter forecast produced by Manpower since the start of the decade. It marks an increase of five percentage points on the findings for the same period in 1996.

Regionally, the West Midlands is the most optmistic area, recording a rise of 19 percentage points over the same period last year. While job prospects in the South also look high. London is trailing the national job average, and East Anglia and the North West are the least optimistic areas about jobs in the country.

Ballot 97, page 6

TIMES

CROSSWORD

No 1049

ACROSS: 1 Body 3 Offender 8 Rave 9 Fabulous 11 Basketball 14 Cruise 15 Demise 17 Financiers 20 Surplice

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2 Sharp, biting (4)

4 Food of the gods (8)

6 Statutory days off (4.8)

7 First part of Bible (3.9)

8 NE-most Irish county (6)

16 Sloping, emphatic type (6)

17 Get back (expenses) (6)

19 Devastation, chaos (5)

5 A Spanish red (5)

13 Unfaithful (8)

21 Admonish (4)

star (6)

3 James -, US gangster-film

ACROSS

1 Miss stroke (rowing) (5,1,4)

9 Passage: end of plane trip

10 (Nose) cleared: (fuse)

burned out (5)

12 War memorial (8)

15 Due from son (6)

18 Weak-heeled hero (8)

22 Diplomat; messenger (5)

23 Denseness; unintelligibility

24 Amuse delightfully (6.4)

21 Puce 22 Apposite 23 Desk

SOLUTION TO NO 1048

11 Pie, 2 dn (4)

14 Peak (6)

20 Difficult (4)

Thyssen and Krupp draw battle lines

BY OLIVER AUGUST

AN unprecedented £5 billion takeover battle in Germany is expected to turn hostile this week despite intense political pressure on the two compan-

es to agree to a merger. Thyssen, the steel producer. will today resume talks with Krupp, which made the hos-tile bid, but both companies continue to prepare for battle.

Helmut Werner, chief executive of Mercedes Benz, chaired secret talks at the weekend between Dieter Vogel, Thyssen's chief executive, and Gerhard Cromme, Krupp's chief executive. Herr Werner, the well-respected el-der statesman of German industry, was called in because he is seen as the mediator most likely to bring about a merger.

But in the meantime, executives from both companies have sought the advice of American investment bankers who possess experience of takeover battles. Hostile takeovers are almost unheard of in-Germany and German banks have no experience of them. Thyssen has hired Morgan Stanley while Krupp is being advised by Goldman Sachs.

Morgan Stanley is said to have devised a defensive strategy to prevent Krupp from purchasing Thyssen shares at a 25 per cent premium after the end of the talks. The

TWO

deadline for talks set by Krupp runs out on Thursday.
Thyssen is also believed to be considering the launch of its own hostile bid for Krupp, which is only half the size of

Thyssen. In the past there had been fears that the federal cartel office would object to such a move. Krupp suggested the frame-work for the talks last week after its bid was greeted with strong political hostility in Germany, where industrial disputes are expected to be

settled through compromise. Politicians and unions accused the Krupp board of behaving like "Wild West But Krupp executives are now sald to regret making the merger talks offer. They believe that Thyssen execu-tives are only slightly less

opposed to a merger than they

are to a straight takeover. Thyssen is suspected of conducting the talks in order to win more time to devise a defence strategy. Krupp has emphasised repeatedly that talks would not be extended

beyond Thursday Together with the main political parties, Thyssen is also thought to be exerting political pressure on Krupp's bankers, especially Deutsche Bank, not to provide the credit needed to buy a majority of the Thyssen shares.

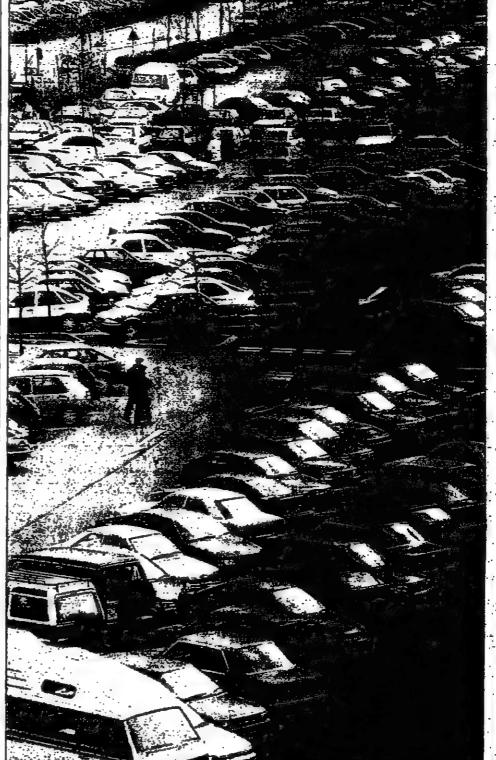
Both main political parties have a strong interest in stopping the takeover. The Social Democrats traditionally style themselves as the defenders of manual jobs. thousands of which are set to

go if Krupp is successful. Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats are keen to keep unemployment down in the run-up to next year's general election and in order to bring down welfare spending to meet the Maastricht criteria for a single currency.

Thyssen's works council called on some 50,000 workers to stage a protest tomorrow in Frankfurt, taking their protest to the nation's financial capital. Georg Bongen, the Thyssen works council leader, said: "We are going to Frankfurt because we lear that our future cannot be helped by the democratically elected government in Bonn, but will instead be decided by the banks."

The banks have shown little reaction to the pressure so far. A top Deutsche Bank official may resign from the Thyssen supervisory board after the protests. Ulrich Cartellieri. who represents Deutsche's shareholder interests on the Thyssen board, said: "I will not rule out that I will give up my mandate at the end of the meeting on Thursday."

Studies by Deutsche, Dresdner and Goldman Sachs show a merger could show positive results as early as spring 1998, according to Der Spiegel, Germany's news magazine.



Shopping around: a crowded car park yesterday at the Lakeside centre in Essex

Inflation worries overboom

BY JANET BUSH -BOONOMICS EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, has engineered a that will present the next gov-ernment with an unconsortable legacy of rising inflation and a manufacturing sector suffering under an uncompetitive exchange rate, the Oxford Economic Forecasting says.

Oxford assumes the boomwill not deliver an election victory to the Conservatives and that a Labour government is set for a bumpy economic ride over the next two years, with immediate upward pressure on base rates.

In 1997, growth is likely to strengthen further in the start term, led by buoyant consumer demand fuelled by tax cuts, low interest rates, rapidly falling unemployment and building society windfalls. Oxford predicts consumer spending to rise 4.2 per cent this year. -

But then growth is expected to be curbed by a continued rally in sterling that will make exporting more difficult and hold back investment. Strong domestic demand and weaker exports are expected to mean that net trade becomes a serious drag on growth, in-creasing Britain's current ac-count deficit to £6 billion in 1997, from £1.5 billion in 1996. Overall, the economy is predicted to grow 3.1 per cent this year, but then fall to only I.8 per cent in 1998. It is next year when the impact of the pound on exports is likely to be telt most and, at the same time, consumers will be hit by higher interest rates.

Economic outlook, page 43

2 Save pounds on

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South West Trains plays down fines

South West Trains, the operator owned by Stagecoach and in hot water over cancellations of services in the South East, has played down suggestions that it faces heavy fines over the cancellations. Brian Cox, chairman of SWT, was to face the House of Commons Transport Committee last week, but the hearing was cancelled because of the election.

In a bid to set the record straight, he last night published his company's version of events. SWT intends to restore the full timetable on its routes at Easter, keeping its perfor-mance within the thresholds set by the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising. "By doing so we are confident we will avoid the penalty," he says.

Lonrho shareholders will press

Sale hint

the new management at Wednesday's annual meeting for news on the proposed demerg-er, to be met with a hint of an eventual sale of the African sugar business. Tate & Lyle is thought to be interested. Nicholas Morrell, chief executive, will come under attack from Pirc, which monitors corporate governance and is urging. shareholders to block Sir John Craven's appointment as chairman. Sir John is chairman of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, Lonrho's merchant bank.

Bank ratings

The Bank of England is considering the introduction of a numerical rating system to classify banks according to their risk profile, similar to that used by Moody's or Standard & Poor's, the bond rating agencies. The system, which would be confidential, forms part of the Bank's proposed frame-work for supervision developed in response to criticisms made after the collapse of Barings.

Drummond and Microsoft in software fight

MICROSOFT, the world's largest software house has challenged Drummond, the Bradford textiles group, to a High Court battle, after the worsted and woollens manufacturer was found using unauthorised copies of com-

puter programmes. The software giant has joined forces with Lotus, the business software publisher, to issue a writ demanding damages from Drummond, which has admitted using multiple copies of Microsof Word and Lotus 1-2-3.

Drummond, . which quoted on the stock market with a value of £10 million, said it was astonished to learn that it had unauthorised software in use. Stefan

Simmonds, chairman of Drummend said: "Microsoft told us that we had a problem: we did a complete audit and

IN BUSINESS

TOMORROW

looks at labour

market flexibility on

the day US interest

rates could rise

ware Alliance (BSA), a body set up to rein in the proliferation of copied software in use Evan Cox, from law firm Covington & Burling, is acting for the BSA. He says: "We are seeking the full damages from Drummond, which we are entitled to under the law. We would have liked to have resolved this out of court but

we could not agree on the final

found we were at fault. They

were right that the law is on

their side and we're grateful

ered a very fair sum in

compensation, but then they

tried to extract an unreason-

ably large amount of money

from us. They threatened us with High Court action and

some bad publicity, but we

told them we are not fussed

He added that the company

was prepared to pay only an

The action is being filed

through the Business Soft-

appropriate sum of money.

"We offered what we consid-

that they told us.

about publicity.

Drummond is accused of using 97 copies of Microsoft Words, while having licences for 11, and using 90 copies of Lotus 1-2-3 with only 19 licences. Microsoft was informed about Drummond through the BSA's "Software theft hotline" which offers up to

software which leads to a successful swoop. Mr Simmonds said: "It is entirely plausible that the call was made by somebody who did the copies themself. It would certainly be an easy way to make £2,500".

£2,500 to employees who give

information about inlicensed

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Bonn hangs up party balloons but Kohl's credit runs out with Club Med



Horst Haitzinger's view of Kohl and Theo Waigel as pained parents as Germany shouts: "Hoorah, I've failed again"

e are all invited, even the surly party-poopers of the British contingent, to attend the 40th birthday celebration of an old friend, the Treaty of Rome. The European Commission, which is paying for the Bonn event this week — free balloons, raffle tickets and a panel discussion on the euro has decided to stage the party in the German Modern History Museum, not far from the office of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor.

The message is obvious: the Treaty of Rome has been good for Germany. Twelve years after the conclusion of a devastating war, it handed Bonn a ticket to respectability. German politicians thus have a special duty to other founder members, including Italy. Everything that Herr Kohl is doing, however, suggests Germany is preparing to discard this responsibility. Foreign ministers travel to

likely to be less than jolly. There is no mistaking the tension between Germany and Italy as the decisions on economic and monetary union creep up fast. The situation recalls schooldays on the sports pitch when two

captains were told to choose their teams from a huddled mass. I was one of the last to be picked and so my heart beats for Club Med as Captain Kohl, the great selector, switches his reluctant gaze to the no-hopers.

Herr Kohl's official line is that the choice for EMU will be made only in April 1998 after the French have staggered through Foreign ministers travel to Rome tomorrow for the official their elections. In truth, everything is happening more quickly treaty anniversary. The mood is



in Bonn who argue for a delay of EMU say the decision has to he reached soon after the 1997 tax projections are available in that May: month's unem-

esbank indis-cretions seem to

smack of a pre-

selection. Those

ployment fig-ures should also signal whether Bonn is able to meet Maastricht public spending targets. To protect EMU the markets have to be given local

anaesthetic. That means either signposting a postponement strategy by the end of the year -or alerting and soothing those countries left out of a small but perfectly performed EMU startup in 1999. Herr Kohl, sadly, is not up to either task. Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, spotted this quickly, urging Herr Kohl to show more leadership on EMU.

Germany, once a measuring rod for Italy and Spain, has become an object of suspicion. Herr Kohl's twin aims of creating an EMU acceptable to the German people and of enlarging Europe, eastwards are seen as directly hostile to the interests of the Mediterranean states

The Kohi bridge to the

South was concentrated too heavily on his personal friendship with Felipe González and was little more than gesture politics, a hint that Southerners need not look solely to France for their champion in Europe. The Government's true evaluation of the South was probably best exposed in the 1994 Schäuble-Lamers Christian Democratic strategy paper, which made plain that Spain, Portugal and Italy could not expect to become

members of the "hard core" in

the near future. Opinion polls show this to be a popular line with the business community and the population generally.

Herr Kohl's personal tone does not reassure his Southern part-ners. After Spanish and Italian summits recently, he tried clumsily to position the South closer to German hearts: the place where millions of fellow countrymen lay their beach towels every summer. He thus ignored the South's message that their efforts to meet the EMU criteria

must be taken seriously. As long as the German economy splutters unhappily, so Herr Kohl's right to pose as a team captain will be questioned by the stragglers. Spain, while disdaining the Club Med label, can see that the South, united, can block all of Herr Kohl's favourite projects if Southerners are put on the reserve bench. Captain Kohl, it seems, is losing his goalscoring touch. Time, perhaps, for

Russians attack Yeltsin over Nato concessions

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

A STORM of protest greeted President Yeltsin when he returned from his summit meeting in Helsinki at the weekend as opposition leaders condemned his agreements with President Clinton as "capitulation" and "betrayal".

Even before the Russian leader's jet touched down in Moscow, hardline Communists predicted that Mr Yeltsin's failure to halt Nato's expansion plans would lead to Russia's isolation and a redivision of Europe.

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, who came second in last year's presidential race, said that plans to grant Russia a consultative role at Nato effectively meant that the Kremlin was being admitted "no further than Nato's cloakroom".

"The Heisinki agreements were effectively a Treaty of Versailles for Russia," said Mr Zyuganov, comparing Russia's present treatment by the Western alliance to that of Germany after its defeat in the First World War. "We have no trust in our President, who cannot plan two steps in advance and is guilty of com-

thing went smoothly during pletely betraying the national interests of the country." the talks," he told reporters on Although his response was predictable, the Communists Saturday, "We could not come to an agreement on several were not the only critics of questions, such as the former Helsinki, and aside from a few Soviet nations not joining liberal deputies in parliament Nato." Even some apparent most of the political establishachievements on economic coment has come out strongly operation and arms control, against Nato's expansion announced by the two leaders on Friday, seemed less certain

plans into East Europe.
Even Mr Yeltsin, who
"agreed to disagree" with Mr
Clinton, sounded less enthusiastic about the modest achievements of his two-day summit, in particular America's refusal to rule out one day admitting former Soviet republics into Nato. "Not every-

tions can take place only once the current Start 2 agreement

by yesterday.

Minsic About 10,000 people marched to a "Day of Free-dom" rally yesterday, the latest in a series of protests against the Soviet-style rule of President Lukushenko. Police used batons and teargas in an attempt to halt the unauthorised march, sponsored by Popular Front, but did not try to stop the rally itself.

Belarus protest rally Among about 300 detained for taking part in the march were the First Secretary of the American Embassy, Serge Alexandrov, an ethnic Belarussian, and a former Interior Minister, Yuri Zakharenko, Interfax news

A plan to slash strategic

nuclear missiles to a ceiling of

2,500 warheads each by 2007,

under a Start 3 treaty, looked

far less likely since the reduc-

agency reported. Some demonstrators carried signs reading We love Nato". (AP)

ment. It is inconceivable that the assembly, dominated by the left-wing and nationalist Opposition, would pass the vote in the present political

Similarly, a pledge by Mr Clinton to grant Russia a seat at the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations' summit is facing resistance. Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, said yesterday that tackling global economic problems should still be restricted to the original seven

However, it was not clear how much time Mr Yeltsin would devote to examining the results of his summit meeting, particularly since he has very pressing domestic problems awaiting his attention.

In his absence, the new reformist Government has grown increasingly concerned about the possible disruption, and the threat of violence, as a result of a national strike called for Thursday by millions of workers protesting at the non-payment of nearly £6 billion in wages.

Leading article, page 21



A man, his mouth taped in protest at China's treatment of the pro-democracy movement, marks the start of the final 100 days of British rule in Hong Kong

Kong under Chinese rule.

of residents took part in parades, rallies and other cele-

beginning of the last 100 days

of British colonial rule. At the

7,000 snaked its way through

the Opium War, and Britain

later added to its territory.

paper said.

Chinese cheer for

the last 100 days

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BELITING

HUNDREDS of people, some carrying banners like "Hong

Kong comes home", cheered in Tiananmen Square as a

huge electronic clock marking

the number of days until China takes over the colony

turned to 100 at midnight on

Official newspapers carried front-page stories over the

impending end of British colonial rule. "We have endured 100 years of shame, 100 years

of resistance and 100 years of

waiting," said the Guangming "Now, in another 100

days, the hopes of generations will be realised."

The People's Daily, flagship

newspaper of the Comm

Kohl vows to meet target on currency

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, yesterday tried to quash all talk of delaying the 1999 start of European economic and monetary union and called on Germans to pull together to keep the single currency on schedule.

The German Finance Minister, Theo Waigel, joined in the chorus of support for a punctual EMU and hinted at further austerity measures, including cuts in social benefits, to achieve the Maastricht criteria on public spending.

The German Government has clearly been unnerved by the growing appeal for posteral trade union leaders have come out against a 1999 start. as have some central and private bankers, the most popular Social Democrat politician Gerhard Schröder, and a handful of the most influen-

tial newspapers. Herr Kohl, who yesterday travelled to Bad Hofgastein for his annual fasting cure when he eats only dry bread rolls — made his strongest attempt yet to promote the Maastricht timetable. There can be no talk of a delay," he told the Sunday edition of Die

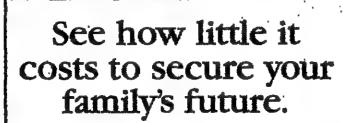
"Many of the self-appointed experts want a delay only so that the whole project can be put on ice. Others seem to get blows in their face.

"Nothing has changed in my determination to fulfil the Maastricht criteria so that economic and monetary union can begin on time," the Chancellor added.















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the busy Wanchai district, waving Chinese flags and those of the future Hong Kong Special Administrative Region A handful of pro-democracy protesters, dressed in black with their mouths symbolically taped, held a protest around a statue of Queen Victoria, the monarch when Britain took Hong Kong, and carried banners protesting against the Tiananmen Square massacre by the Communist regime's troops in 1989. Many in Hong Kong are taking a wait-and-see attitude to the handover, although China's stated plans to scrap and replace the elected legislature and to water down key local rights laws have evoked nervousness at home and protest abroad.

Party, gave up much of its front page to the occasion and the role played in it by the paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, who died last month aged 92 before he could realise his ambition to see Hong It was the late leader who formulated the "one country, two systems" policy under LERTHER CARRY CASE £9.99 which Hong Kong is to be administered for the next 50 FREE AND IN-CAR ADAPTOR WORTH ESS ME VAT years. "At this moment, we think even more fondly of FREE COUNTDOWN MEMBERSHIP Deng Xiaoping," the newsin Hong Kong, thousands FREE SUARANTEE brations to mark the FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING largest event, a crowd of about YOUAFORE . 2- 200 CELLPHONES DIRECT TARIFF Am 50 8 8-CONNECTION CHANGE £35.00 MONTHLY BENTAL £17.50 PENE RATE CALLS BE WHISE OFF PENE CALLS 40p per min 12p per min ONE SECOND BILLING Cellphones BSE CLASTIC TO PRIVATE IN PELEPHONE SHIPPING China ceded Hong Kong island to Britain in 1842 under Park Sings on 12.10-23 to Man in Fit. Magazine, in it, or advanced and artisms charges will be depicted in as apply compacted in the fits; of participating theories. the Treaty of Nanking after

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Finding a cream that makes ageing skin young again is the dream of every cosmetic company. A laboratory in Israel may have some answers

rowing old is a miserable business. The slide downhill begins with a few lines around the eves. The descent quickens as wrinkles become more deeply etched. As the glowing smoothness of youth turns inexorably into the pallid leatheriness of old age, who does not dream of staying forever young?

Now medical researchers claim to have taken an important step towards turning back the clock. A team of scientists at the Haifa Technion in Israel has taken samples of wrinkly skin from elderly volunteers and transformed them into "young" skin. But they admit they are still a long way from discovering the secret of eternai youth.

Small squares of skin were taken from the thighs of 20 patients aged between 75 and 85. Each human skin patch was grafted on to the back of a nude mouse, a hairless animal specially bred to have a feeble immune system. Its poor immonity rendered it incapable of rejecting the graft.

At the same time, the cutand-graft procedure was revolunteers in their twenties. This second set of grafts provided a yardstick against which to measure quality. Dr Amos Gilhar, a dermatologist from the Skin Research Laboratory at the technion, monitored the progress of the transplanted skin under the microscope. His aim was to see whether aged skin could recover its youthful characteris-

The skin, the largest organ

The secret of young skin

of the human body, is made up of a thin outer layer (the epi-dermis) and a thicker layer beneath (the dermis). The epidermis is like armour-plating — it is tough and has an outer layer of dead cells. The dermis contains nerves, blood vessels and living cells.

Dr Gilhar investigated five skin properties that dwindle with age — the rate at which skin cells divide and renew themselves; the number of meianocytes, the cells that produce the pigment melatonin; the number of Langerhans cells, which act as sentinels to protect the skin from infection; the thickness of the epidermis and the number of blood vessels. As these attributes decline, the skin is gradually thins and becomes

more sallow and translucent. When Dr Gilhar observed the old samples three months after transplantation, he was stunned. "Under the microscope," he says, "the old graft-ed samples looked identical to the young grafted samples. We found a significant increase in both epidermal thickness and the rate at which the epidermis cells proliferated. However, the number of protective

The ageing process may be reversible, says Anjana Ahuja

Langerhans cells did not in-

Another feature that improved was the junction between the epidermis and the dermis. In youth, these two serrated layers interlock perfectly. As the years advance, the serrations become blunted and the alignment between them weakens, leaving the skin prone to blisters. r Gilhar found

planted skin, the two lavers regained their serrated appearance and fitted together more closely. The number of blood vessels also increased. In short, as Dr Gilhar summarises in a research paper: "All these findings may indicate that part of the typical histological (tissue) changes of unaged skin are exposed reversible.

Further investigation re-

vealed that transplantation appears to kick-start chemicals called cytokines. These proteins perform such bodily functions as regulating immune responses and instructing cells to divide. As a person ages, cytokines become scarcer, either because production slows down or their release into the skin is hindered. Dr Gilhar says: "We assume that the transplant procedure somehow led to enhanced

secretion of these proteins." Dr Gilhar and his team of ten researchers have been doing experiments for seven years. The work is funded solely by the technion and there are no plans to collaborate with any cosmetics comnanies. "There could be nortant commercial offs," says Dr Gilhar, "but we want to concentrate on the basic science for at least two or three years.'

There is intense competition in the beauty industry to find an elixir that will soothe the ravages of time. Two months ago, the collective quest to bottle youth looked as though it had succeeded. Syence, a cosmetic company, claimed it had developed a cream. Servital, which thickened the mon in living things. Animals that run on wheels have yet to be discovered, evolution having favoured legs, fins or wings. A

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remarkable exception is provid-ed by the whip-like flagella with which swimming bacteria pro-pel themselves. These can whirl around at a prodigious rate. propelling the tiny hacteria ough the water at speeds which, scaled up, would give us cars that could break the sound barrier. So it is very satisfying to discover that hidden inside ev-

ery cell in the body are even tinier motors, upon which we depend for energy. Japanese researchers report in the current Nature journal that they have discovered the smallest motor in creation — an enzyme that rotates to do its. work and is only five millionths of a millimetre across. The job of the enzyme is to create adenosine triphosphate (ATP), the power source of the cells. Energy from food s converted by the enzyme, ATP synthase, into chemical energy in the form of ATP. The energy is stored in the bonds between the phosphate groups, and cells can use it by breaking off a phosphate and turning ATP

The enzyme consists of seven components - a central axle, and six sub-units wrapped around it to form a collar. The Japanese team, led by Dr Hiroyuki Noji of the Tokyo Institute of Technology, shows that the inner

into its close relation, adenosine diphosphate

The circle of life the collar. They proved this by attaching a fluorescent filament of a muscle protein to it and watching it through a microscope as it spun at up to four revolutions per second. The ATP synthase machine requires all seven of its components to work to accomplish its task. SCIENCE They also have to work in the right order. This is achieved by BRIEFING the rotor turning around so that the active sites of the sub-units forming the collar are presented Nigel to it one after the other. As it Hawkes turns, the molecules of ATP are

> Biochemists know how quickly this reac-tion goes, so it is possible to work out how fast the motor should spin. Dr Stephen Block, of Princeton University, does this in a commentary in Nature, and comes up with a speed of 20 revolutions per second, five times faster than the Japanese team observed. The difference, he believes, is almost certainly accounted for by the drag caused by the muscle filament, which had to be attached to

produced like sausages from a

the axle to prove it was going round.
"What is stunning is that it is the very first time rotation has been demonstrated in an enzyme," says Dr Paul Boyer, an enzyme specialist at the University of California at Los Angeles, who first proposed that ATP synthase worked this way in the 1970s. "A picture is worth a thousand words; detecting the spinning visually is a very convincing demonstration."

Evolution theory focuses on eyes



skin. The product, which cost £75 for 50ml, was hailed as an

E/S for 50ml, was halled as an anti-ageing treatment. Tests by the BBC programme Watchdog showed that creams selling for under £5, including Oil of Ulay, produced comparable thickening. Dr Gilhar, it seems, has hit to something that will do even

on something that will do even

better - cytokines. What

about putting cytokines in a

pot of cream and selling it as

an age-defying potion? That

would be very complicated.

but it may be possible in the

future," he says. "The obstacle

is that cytokines are not stable

proteins." That would make it

impossible to formulate a

For now, he urges caution.

Skin is very complex and we

have looked at only a few

aspects. Yes, we have shown

that some changes in the

ageing skin can be reversed,

but we need more experiments

in more detail before we can

access whether we can use this

information to turn back the

clock. Of course, it would be a

dream if we could reverse the

ageing process in skin, but I

don't think we could do it in

humans in my lifetime."

cream and sell it.

EYES have always been a challenge to evolutionists. It is difficult to work out how they evolved - although Richard Dawkins made a valiant effort in his book Climbing Mount Improbable - and the forms of eyes differ so radically in different creatures that it appears that the eye must have evolved not once, but many

That merely compounds the mystery. This is not so, as some new results suggest Dr Stanislav Tomarek, of the US National Eye Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, and Dr Walter Gehring, of the University of Basle, transferred the gene responsible for forming the eye in squid into fruit flies.

They report in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that the flies developed eyes in places where their wings, legs and antennae normally grow.

The fact that a gene from a mollusc, whose evolution diverged from other animals 500-600 million years ago, can produce eyes in fruit flies suggests strongly that the eye evolved only once, and that all the forms of eyes seen in different species are merely elaborations on a basic theme.

Program that puts you in the fast lane



THE flow of traffic on a motorway is subject to many unexpected variations, as every driver knows. Now a computer program developed by a physicist from AEA Technology at Harwell in Oxfordshire, Dr Laurence Howe, can be

used to explore these changes safely. Dr Howe's model, which is to be demonstrated at the Institute of Physics annual congress in Leeds later this month, categorises drivers as timid, ideal, normal, impatient, or aggressive. It also categorises the range of vehicles on the road, from heavy lorries to fast cars, by features such as their speed, mass, length, and braking power. The system, called Vedens, can model up

to six lanes of traffic moving in the same direction, randomly selecting each vehicle and driver in the proportions found on real

It is then possible to model situations such as lane closures and see what happens to the flow. He has already found that extra lanes are valuable when traffic is joining the motorway, but offer few benefits at an exit slip-road if more than about a fifth of the traffic wants to turn off.







Mightier than the computer

In a hi-tech age, Joseph Connolly maintains a firm grip on his pen

ten by hand, with a green Ball Pentel pen, on three, lined foolscap sheets of paper in a red ringbound Silvine notebook, as was every piece l have ever written. My new novel, Stuff, was written in exactly the same way (all 110,000 words of it), as were its two predecessors. I am therefore either the very last dinosaur to roam the earth, or else poised at the very cutting edge of what may be termed the "new nostalgia". In America not only are mechanical typewriters staging a dramatic comeback, but work is in hand in some San Francisco design company to pro-duce a \$5,000 computer that mimics not only the typefaces of the old Olivettis and Remingtons but also the quirky light and shade (depending on the strength in one's wrists) and all the wonky imperfections. If this catches on it is only a matter of a very short time before pen and ink sweep back triumphantly in all their blotchy splen-dour — and there I'll be, cool and at the forefront.

It is true that I drive people crazy with my total disregard for all things electronic. People get very vexed that they can't fax me, and have to address an envelope instead; I'm currently redraiting a screenplay and the production company is tearing out its hair at the sight of my Cowgummed inserts,

I used to think I was just old enough to get away with all this, but now I'm not so sure: how long can l last? The Times still operates this marvellous system where I can read my stuff over the phone to copytakers who are sometimes so brilliantly speedy that it's difficult to keep up with them, and at other times... well. I have to watch what I write here, because it's got to be read over the phone to a copytaker.

When I have finished writing a novel (generally about 450 longhand fools-

superb crisp sharp SVGA NI screen. It also includes a 90 minute video user guide and a

£1000. This is a very powerful system which

value in PC systems in the UK and this larger PC at just 5935 +VAT (£1098.63 jnc. VAT) is the best PC deal we have ever object. Buy

we can upgrade to an even faster intel 200000 Primore processor with ANDO

echnology if required in the future".

superb software range worth well over

his article was writ- cap pages) it is such a ten by hand, with a scrawled out, rejigged. plastered mess that no one but I could read it (sometimes with difficulty), so it is I who must type it out. Any chance, asks my publishers, Faber and Faber, of having it on disk? None. I say - I am a writer, I am not in the record business.

My son Charles is 13 this

week and I have agreed to buy him his very first computer (all his friends, he tells me, have owned at least two since soon after their conception). Once one has assimilated the awful truth that it is going to set one back at least a grand, one begins to have a glance at just what one might get for one's money. Here it is Pentium Intel HX Chipset Motherboard (FX for PROS)". OK, fairly exciting so far — never in my life has any member of my family come even close to owning a Chipset Motherboard — but you also get a Hard Drive (fast EIDE mode 4, if you want the whole truth) as well as my favourite — 256Kb Pipeline Burst Cache (which is, should you be worried, upgradable). That there are windows hardly needs to be said. Oh - and you can get a printer with Epson Microdot, which sounds a like an asylum. (Bubblejet sounds a lot more fun, but you probably mustn't swallow it)

ow look — all this either makes perfect sense to you, or else you need the solace of a darkened room in which to wonder just who hijacked the OED. It's just like a solicitor's letter, isn't it? You know what each word means, but how in blue blazes to make sense of it all? Of course, it could be just me (I'm still flummoxed by golfballs and daisy wheels, but at least they suggest a fun day out. I'd love an explanation of it all; could someone, maybe, write it down for me? Stuff Faber and Faber £14.99 (not available on disk).





emphasise is straight, sexually

and in business). "Brian was really down on his luck at the

time," Schrager told New York magazine. "I gave him a

break. He blew it." Schrager

has now taken up with a new

associate, the strikingly hand-

some Rande Gerber, who is

sometimes linked romanucul-

Ask Schrager today if McNally is compa-

rable to Rubell and

the will shrick that

he is not. McNally

should be relieved.

For, as that old

barfly Anthony

Haden-Guest re-

calls in his forth-

coming book The

Last Party, Studio

disclosures that

Rubell attracted

the hip crowd by

giving them money

and drugs. When Rubell and

Owen for sentencing on Janu-

ary 18, 1980," writes Haden-

Guest, "the judge blitzed them

arrogance'."

54 crashed after

iv to Cindy Crawford.

The rumpus between Ian Schrager, left, and Brian McNally has been likened to the manager and the maître d' of Claridge's having a custard-pie fight in front of the Queen Mother

Bun fight in New York

A highly public row between two restaurateurs is giving New

t sleek "44", the mini-malist dining room of New York's trendy Royalton Hotel, where the smart set grazes on green leaves at lunchtime and you can almost bite into the power, there has has just been the most embarrassing and well — hilarious row.

It involves Brian McNally. Manhattan's best-loved Cockney, and it has set Midtown affutter. McNally, a puckish restaurateur, has run "44" since 1991. He rents the space from the Royalton's cool-nosed proprietor Ian Schrager, America's über-hotelier, as he would perhaps call himself, who will shortly open four hotels in London.

With his English wit and his crumpled charm, McNally has made ill-lit "44" the best Yorkers their best laugh in ages. Quentin Letts reports after the financial collapse of

networking venue in the New World. Chic restaurateurs these days have pop star status and the celebrities who frequent "44" — such as Calvin Klein, Kevin Costner, John Kennedy, Madonna and Anna Wintour - regard McNally as one of their own. Many of them think similarly highly of Schrager, who made his name in the Seventies when he and the late, louche Steve Rubell ran the nightclub Studio 54.

Bianca Jagger rode her white charger there, Salvador Dali twiddled his tash and the place became a byword for Bacchanalian revels. Schrager and Rubell did a year in prison

Studio 54, but somehow that only added to their allure.

Given the close business arrangement between the two men, onlookers suspected that Brian McNally and Ian Schrager must be friends. They are, or rather, they were ... until the start of this month, when Schrager unaccountably launched a vitriolic attack, interviewed in New York magazine, Schrager accused his British associate of a long list of failings: a lack of character, of being "fake", a failure, down at heel, "inept". It was an extraordinary performance, even by the pot-hurling standards of the

restaurant trade. The rumpus has now turned nastier. Speaking properly for the first time about Schrager's attack, McNally scratched his tousled, greyish hair and let loose a torrent. From Britain it may be difficult to gauge just how big a row this is, but. imagine the general manager and the maître d' of Claridge's having a custard-pie fight in that fine hotel's dining-room in the middle of a busy lunchtime, bang in front of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and you just about

have it. "Ian gets so uptight," said McNally. "It is ludicrous. We have known each other for 20 years. He just came a little unhinged, a bit hysterical. Mind you, that is often not far below the surface. He has been so stupid, and unprofessional. He has had a nervous breakdown in public and it just doesn't look good. Since

that article appeared I have had calls from EVERY-ONE, even from friends of Ian who have said they are not going to be his friend any more. Even Calvin Klein, who was quoted as attacking me. He rang up to say how embarrassed he was. He's a very nice man. Calvin. you know. Said he was mortified by what Ian had said. Mortified."

The row began Schrager dumped McNally from a couple of projects that they had been thinking of doing together. McNally, in something of a masterstroke, then infuriated Schrager by announcing that he and one of Schrager's other New York associates, Philip Pilevsky, were going to start a hotel in newly fashionable Miami. Their place, which will open next year, is a block and a half down the beach from Schrager's highly successful Delano Hotel. "Ian is worned

about the competition." said McNally. "He knows we're

going to do a good job and he

is not generous in spirit." McNally, 46, has come a long way since his schooldays at a grammar school in London's Mile End. In the Sixties and early Seventies, after a brief stint in the City, he hit the hippy trail, sowed his oats in free-love Denmark. and eventually washed up in the New York of 1977, dressed in flared trousers and a tiedved T-shirt. His brother

Keith, who is still in the restaurant trade in New York, was then running the hot venue of the time. One Fifth Avenue. Young Brian became

the barman. The Eighties were good to him. He opened some of the busiest and most celebrated New York restaurants of the decade, including Odeon, the Canal Bar and indochine, disaster until

struck with a place called 150 Wooster. You can "It was the coolest restaurant in the expect to see world - for about a minute and a Hollywood half," he recalled with a wry laugh. producers It cost him hundreds of thousands and political of dollars and put him out of action hitters for "a year in the wilderness". Dur-

ing that time he learnt the realities of New York business life. When you're down, few bother to help you. He accepted "44" at the

urging of Anna Wintour, the British-born Editor of American Vogue. The Royalton, which like Schrager's other hotels is over-styled, uncomfortable, but popular with the easily led, was doing all right at the time. Its restaurant, however, was dreadful: bad service, uninteresting food, worse people. McNally went into overdrive, called up all his old friends, many of whom, during his year of exile, had risen high in the media, movies, music and similar fields.

Slowly the place picked up, and he has now turned an annual take of \$3 million He opened into something ap-proaching \$7.5 milthe most lion. Not bad for a place with only 30 celebrated tables. Go there any restaurants lunchtime today

in New

producers, pub-York lishing moguls and political hitters. Harry Evans will be lunching an author at one table, Norman Mailer will be sucking on a fish bone at another. When Condé Nast's boss Si Newhouse enters, the room turns as one to see his guest. "Here comes his Royal Si-ghness," people whisper. Not that Schrager is now seen

> outburst," said McNally. "He must be embarrassed." Schrager picked Brian McNally to run "44" because he thought that the amusing Brit had the makings of a second Steve Rubell - his late partner from Studio 54 (al-though McNally, let us

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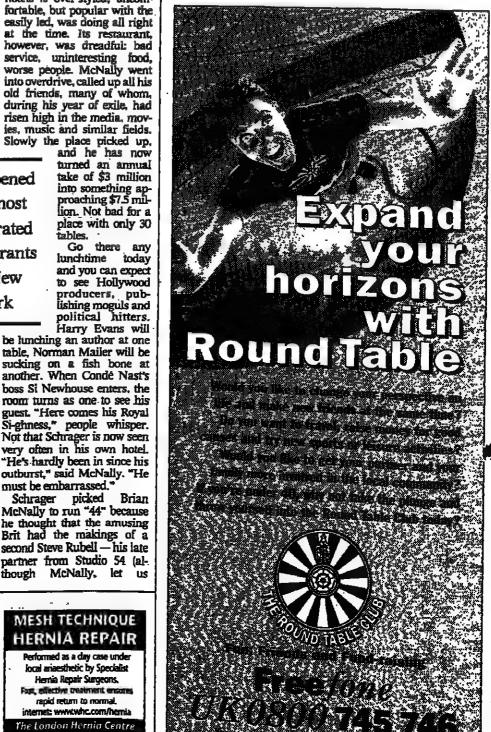
When Schrager reached prison, one of his jobs was to cut two miles of grass beneath a chain-link fence - for which task he was given a pair of scissors. Since his release in January 1981 he has achieved a spectacular return to social and business prominence, and he now has several millions in the bank. But did prison sour

Schrager laughs at McNally, with that odd American snobbery, for not being financially independent. "I couldn't give a toss," says McNally. "I have a nicer life than he does." Perhaps he still misses Steve Rubell, or perhaps he simply misreads the irony in McNally's boyish sense of humour. Even though McNally has been in New York so long, his residue of British nonchalance and cheeky iconoclasm seems alien to the Nineties New York business world. If Schrager's 🧔 London hotels are going to be · a success, he may need to learn how to handle Brits.

But all this is probably to take too seriously what re-Schrager appeared in front of the US District Judge Richard mains a thoroughly watchable spat. Like old crones thwacking each other over the head with their brollies, these two are giving New York its best laugh for ages. Long may it for their 'tremendous continue.

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the rate of divorce.

Leicester Square.

All would

be chaos

— and

then I

would go

to work

of our mops and brooms?

You're sitting up-stairs, at your desk

home), staring at your com-

puter screen; drooping over

your typewriter, attempting to

attend to MailMerge or

PhotoShop, or simply trying to

it is that long, long hour

construct a decent sentence.

before lunch - too early to eat,

can't have another cup of

coffee already, and you're

probably trying to give up smoking. The sentence won't

construct, the screen blurs

before your eyes ... and then

It is a siren song, threading

its way up the stairs from the

kitchen, perhaps, or the down-

stairs loo, or from the skirting

boards by the front door.

Clean me, says the song, like

the instruction on Alice's bot-

tle. Clean me. If everything

were clean you could concen-

trate, you could be

secure in the know

ledge that all was

bright and gleam-

ing, a very mirror

of the mind you

Anyway, it's

something to do.

It's better than this

sitting around.

have finished,

when there is dust

in your hair and Jif

under your finger-

something.

when you

nails and the skirting boards

are no longer neglected and

the scurring around the

bath has vanished, you have,

to your delight, accomplished

who feels this way about housework. Certainly not, if I

go by the smiling faces that

gleam out from Every Home

Should Have One, by Jan

Boxhall, which is is published

to celebrate the 75th anniver-

sary of Good Housekeeping

magazine. Chief among its

delights is the advertising,

reproduced from down the

decades, that promise "Present

pleasure and future freedom"

the young mistress of the

house, in her becoming flap-

per-style dress, caresses her Electrolux vacuum-cleaner

while Dad and Son - clearly

the givers of this splendid gift

behind the curtains) and that

After the end of the First

World War, when young

working-class women discov-

ered alternatives to going "into

service", bewildered middle-

class housewives had to learn

how to run a servantiess house

with the help of new appli-

ances from toasters, to Hoo-

plenty of people who absolute-

ly detest the idea of having to

look after themselves. Ru-

Kennedy-Bessette marriage

was on the rocks were accom-

Of course, there are still

vers, to dishwashers.

pictures on wash-day!".

peer mischievously from

I'm sure I'm not the only one

wish you had.

(because you work at

JASON COWLEY

though it may sound, many women enjoy housework. It's in their hormones.

recent study calculates that male

partners of working women do an

average of 13 hours of housework a

"Then, of course, there is a deeper,

what I call biological, drive: perverse

Alison Halstead, 25, is another young woman who does her own housework. She lives with her boyfriend, the press photographer Stefan Rousseau, in a spacious flat in Wanstead, east London, and works a 50-hour week at Talk Radio. She used to spend E80 a month on a cleaner but felt guilty about it, not because she could not afford the outlay but because she felt that what she was doing was an abdication of responsi-

- her responsibility as a

'My mother never had

a cleaner, even though we

her own catering business,

so was always on the go.

had quite a large house and a lot of land. She ran Doing the chores satisfies a longing in psyche

anything else. And yet, the acting world can be so superficial and insecure that I like to feel rooted in domesticity. Having my own home |she lives alone in a large five-bedroom detached house in Leeds] and doing my own housework is a link to a way of life that my grandmother would have recognised.

all those staged photo-

the kitchen, painting walls and

pushing a vacuum cleaner around

No 10 were an inspiration for a

generation of working women. If the

warrior woman herself could find

time to do a spot of housework amid

the sound and fury of public life, then

since Good Housekeeping was

launched with the declaration that

There should be no drudgery in the

house. There must be time to think, to

read, to enjoy life." Admirable senti-

ments, but in these manic, hyperac-

Good Housekeeping estimates that

the typical working woman spends 25

hours a week on housework. Paid

domestic labour may be a big growth

industry in two-earner households,

tive days wildly unrealistic, too.

but just as many women

are choosing to be their

Malandra Burrows, an

actress and singer who works on the TTV soap

Emmerdale, says: "Like

most modern women I

have a busy, hectic sched-

ule. In some weeks we

have to film as many as

Emmerdale — which

leaves very little time for

five episodes

own housekeepers.

so could they.

Seventy-five

"As well as being dull and boring, housework is trivial, relaxing and extremely therapeutic. I like it. I think there is a longing in the psyche of many actors to be ordinary - and doing the daily chores is one way of

Val Tyler, of the Industrial Society. says that the cost of domestic help can be prohibitively expensive, especially most working women would rather pay for a nanny than a housekeeper. A fully-trained nanny can cost as much as £300 a week. Which doesn't leave much for any-

There is no doubt that more and more working women are choosing not to employ cleaners," she says. "At first, I think the depression of the early 1990s had something to do with this - many families couldn't afford that additional expense.

But what we are seeing now is a sociological change, one that reflects the change in family life, and the

When I first started work I couldn't cope: I had to have a cleaner. But once I'd gone through my sixth one in six months. I realised that something was wrong. And that something was that I was actually missing housework. In fact, on the evenings before the mornings that my home-help arrived, I would

actually spend time tidying up my flat so that it was clean for the cleaner. Alison's boyfrlend has completely remodelled their flat since the couple moved in. "He is extremely handy

and has put so much time into the house that I want to contribute something too. At least, that's what I tell him. I enjoy it really." Lilly Shears. 55, who runs her own lternative health business in Hertfordshire, has also experimented with cleaners without success. "The problem was that my belpers never did the

cleaning as I wanted. What most annoyed me was their tendency to rearrange the ornaments without actually dusting beneath them. In the end, I decided that if you want a job done properly you should do it yourself. There is nothing wrong with finding self-fulfilment in selfsufficiency.

So, 75 years after hearing the clarion call of liberation, women are once again picking up their buckets and mons - only this time it appears to be their choice.



With mop, bucket and sewing basket, a new generation of women is rediscovering domesticity

The pleasures of housework

own cleaning is mostly confined to tidying my desk at the office. There is no longer time to consult The Book of Hints and Wrinkles for the Home or Household Hints and Handy Tips, treasured volumes on my Of course, even I think housework can be a chore, and heave a dejected sigh when I read that a recent British Social Attitudes Survey re-

vealed that mothers spend nearly 18 hours a week more there will be "Time for the than fathers on household tasks. There are a lot of Electrolux-buying men in Good Housekeeping's history, but not a lot of them standing by the stove and smiling.

"How many knobs do you really need?" asks a washingmachine ad from this decade. and gives us, as an image of the male in the home. Michelangelo's David with a modest garland of fig leaves. Change in the home? Yes, of course. One in five women worked outside the home in the 1950s: by the 1980s it was one in two. mours that the glamorous and Good Housekeeping no concertingly consistent across the years. Pat Roberts Cairns. the Editor of Good Housekeeping, admits that the "New Man" is a novelty, nationwide. But is that because of us? A lot of working women striving for perfection tend to think we can

probably do less." And what we think we can do well, we often like to do: Demos's survey, Tomorrow's Women, released recently, re-

do everything; but if we were

willing to delegate we could

"il superwoman provided a dominant image of womanhood in the 1980s, a more balanced model may be taking

over in the late 1990s." But this isn't about social issues. This is about the simple pleasure of elbow grease. So if you'll excuse me. I'm going to leave early and clean the fridge. Every Home Should Have One. Ebury Press on March 6, £16,99.

ERICA WAGNER

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A rising hum of sewing bees as the Singers are dusted off

Saving

the

HOME SEWING - good, old-fashioned, thumb-pricking cotton-twiddling sewing - is making a comeback in the United States. A growing army of American women are dusting down their Singer sewing machines and reacquainting themselves with those neglected needlework skills they learnt at school. After 20 years as a top

model, Lauren Hutton must own several closets full of designer clothes. Yet she chooses to make many of her dresses by hand, and she is

The actress Daphne Maxwell Reid, best known to



With the same of t

The second second

The second second

Vivian in the television series The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, is typical of the new homesewer. At the moment she is making a blue and black suit in raw Thai silk. from a McCall nattern. She plans to wear it when she attends an

award banquet in

Los Angeles. Why does she when she could easily afford money is an original Vera Wang? "I really no longer don't like to pay too much when I know what the real value of a dress primary should be," she ex-plained. "I know the cost of the fab-

motive ric, and the time it takes to make a garment. I can't justify that home projects as an example sort of overspending. Also I'm what you'd call buxom, which means I can buy a size 12 pattern and modify the bust to a size 14. And the clothes in the stores are never in the colours that I like - red.

canary yellow or emerald

oma TEL: 0181 423 3000

olive green or beige. I just didn't shop.'

Years of blue-jeans dressing and the 1980s mania for flaunting labels made home sewers an endangered species. But when the recession

canny about their pennies, and immersed themselves in all manger of DIY projects, Martha Stewart, in her television programme. showed her sisters how to run up a frock with one hand and repaint an old lampshade with the other. Feminists wrote about

the fashion for of women regaining pride in their grandmothers' lost skills. Haberdashers reported brisk business again. Louis Morris, the chief ex-

ecutive of Simplicity Patterns, says this is a long-term trend. Business is excellent. The industry is growing at about 3 going to pick up even more."

"First was the sense of accomplishment women gain

from making something themselves, and second they say it relaxes them," said Beth Mauro, of the AHS, "The whole idea of sewing to save money is out of date. "Women are now looking

to create heirloom quality

items. The new sewers are professional women. They're buying homes. having children, and they want to sew for their children. These are the new faces in sewing classes across the country." Sewing classes, like the old quilting bees, also provide an environment where women

about their families and ca-Sewing chat groups have sprung up on the Internet, so women can share information. In effect, the Net has created an international sew-

can get together and gossip

It helps, too, that designers have smartened up their act. Through Vogue Patterns. women can now buy the latest dress in pattern form, six months after it appears on the catwalk - about the same time it reaches the shops.

It is mainly women who sew. But children are leading the way to sexual equality. Pat Headen, who teaches evening classes in Hartsdale, New York, says sewing in schools took a back seat in the 1970s and 1980s, when educators became excited about computer science. Only now are they beginning to realise their mistake. Sewing is for survival. It's like cooking. Yes, it would be nice to cat out every night. But you need to know how to make a sandwich."

LOIS LETTS

green. That year when everyto 5 per cent a year, and it's More than \$5 billion was spent on sewing in 1992, up **MOMBASA** 21.4 per cent from 1987. A third of the country's advit female Flights from Manchester (From 08JUL'97), population now sews. Why, with the recession 7Nis: FROM £399, 14Nis: FROM £519 Both Half Board over, are young women turning to the pattern books? 7NIs: FROM £519, 14NIs: FROM £699 - Both All Inclusive Saving money, it seems, is no longer the primary reason. It * SATARIS & EXCURSIONS AVAILABLE * came only third in a survey Contact Your Travel Agent or call conducted by the American Home Sewing and Craft Association (AHS)



Russian maestro of the moment, Valery Gergiev, conducts the Rotterdam Phil at the Barbican CONCERT: Tonight

REVIEW: Wednesday

all hope to share in its glitzy glory.

Mike Leigh's very. very English Secrets and Lies, which has al-

By any standard "our boys have

done good", and many of us will be

in front of the television set early

tomorrow morning with rattles at

the ready as the show slides down

Close analysis of the nomina-

tions list by trade magazines

reveals facts which have at least a

social value. Of the five nominated

Best Actors, four are either "wheel-

chair-bound" (Woody Harrelson).

MUSIC



POP Gladys Knight helps us make it through a night of her greatest hits at the Albert Hall GIG: Tomorrow REVIEW: Thursday



Jump to it: Irek Mukhamedov trips the light fantastic in La Bayadère at Covent Garden OPENS: Wednesday REVIEW: Next week

DANCE



REVUE Sheila Hancock shares a sketch or two with Dawn French in Then Again at the Lyric Hammersmith OPENS: Thursday REVIEW: Saturday

The Oscars could be described as the effective campaign of a brilliantly mercantile cabal to give their industry hours and acres of free publicity around the world. Yet somehow this marketing manoeuvre has become a curiously respected Honours List. Richard Burton, nominated six times and never a winner, remarked that however much he and others affected to and did indeed despise

bound to put in an appearance in the first paragraph. Oscars are also a way in which we over here, while knowing ourselves to be Davids in the land of film, pitch ourselves boldly against the big Californian Goliaths, and take exceptional pride

the Oscars, come the moment they

longed to win - and come the

obituary it was Oscar who was

when we hit the mark. So far, this year, so very good. The English Patient — happily titled for us although its producer is not English, and nor are many

How many Oscars equal one blockbuster? nist is Hungarian - leads the way severely burnt (Ralph Fiennes). severely troubled (Geoffrey Rush). with a dozen nominations, and we

ready won the Palme d'Or at From the same source. Variety. I Cannes, has picked up five nomi-nations. Kenneth Branagh and learnt that "last year only one of the 106 nominees was black. This year there are two in the acting other Hamleteers are in the pool, races alone." I like "races". No irony intended, I presume. as are Emma and Trainspotting. We also have some purchase on James and the Giant Peach and

or mentally challenged (Billy Bob

Thornton). That leaves Tom

But although we seem set to win the baubles, the box office remains invincibly American. Shine, for instance, has seven nominations and has taken \$16 million at the American box office. Twister. with two nominations, has taken \$242 million. Unlikely to win much Independence Day has grossed \$481 million worldwide so far. Likely to be in there with a big haul, The English Patient - \$42 million so far.

It is always tempting on such

and I see no reason to resist. Could it he that a wedge is now being driven in what is being perceived as intelligent, worthwhile and "quality", and what is seen as box-

office fodder, and could it be that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is sending out a strong signal to its own countrymen that, good as the sound of cascading millions at the box office may be, it is not good enough? It is possible, although some might think it a miracle.

Much more likely is that in a sprawling year with Hollywood in a tired mood it relied on what it could do supremeiy weli - sell globally. The trick or carch is that such films must be pitched at an unrelentingly low level. Speciacle is a useful word here, because no one wants to begrudge a Spectacle. Who would dare to say they oppose fireworks, even though fireworks and nothing but fireworks and no development from fireworks is probably as bad for the brain as foie gras and nothing but foie gras is for the liver?

There is no doubt that Hollywood's smartest operators have long opened up and dominated a world market which is now exploited through the deliberate and cynical use of excessive violence, moral ambiguity, visceral camera work and pre-adolescent plotting and dialogue.

This stripped down model of the American Dream from a land capable of nightmares of complication is carried across the globe and popped into the open mouths of willing chicks worldwide, hungry as they have been throughout the century for the celluloid visions of America.

Perhaps these Oscar nomina-tions today are acting as a brake, or a warning finger pointing to the greater variety which can be lelivered in an English Patient or a Secrets and Lies. That is what we, the British, would like to read into it, and I think many more especially in America — would joing in. But our hope also contains some envy that we cannot as yet cut the mustard at the Big Bang box office. Still, this year, sticking to our last looks like putting us

you saw Cosi fan tutti on television recently you would have seen a credit for Armani for the clothes. The credit in the programme at the Royal Opera House was as big as that for Mozart. If Armani was paid for these costumes, may we ask why?

I am not a fan of the Italian style, but what I saw on stage seemed to be very much what you see in shop windows or on the backs of fashionable folk in fashionable magazines. Cost gave Armani the most tremendous advertisement.

In my view, rather than being paid for the clothes, Signor Armani should have paid the Royal Opera House for allowing him to dress such a vivid

Magnificently mysterious

CONCERT

still unwieldy in construction

and no less heavily flawed by

its crazy text. Even so, it has to

be heard and in conducting its first performance at a Hallé

concert in Manchester - only

a few days after a rare presentation in London, inci-dentally - Kent Nagano reg-

istered a considerable, even

It could have been better

cast, particularly in the narra-

tor role of Sébastian himself, which was spoken by Lahcen

Kebdi as though he didn't

really understand it. But who

does? And anyway - along-

side very competent performances from Emma Selway

and Jane Irwin as the mar-

tyred Christian twins and Sibylle Ehlert as everything else — there was some well-

historical, achievement.

on The Crucible.

smooth as an oyster.

THERE must be times when even the most devoted admirer would wish that Debussy had not got involved with Gabriele d'Annunzio and Le Martyre de Saint Sébastien. If the poet had written the text in his own language rather than his oddly synthetic French. and if he had got a nice Italian composer to collaborate with him on it, Debussy would have been free to do some-

thing else. It is true that Debussy believed in what he was doing and that the score of Le Martyre does contain much inspired music. But in its original full-scale theatrical form, which took more than four hours to perform at the Châtelet in 1911, it was a disaster. When reduced to about sixty minutes of music and narration, which is the way it is done these days, it is

forming, and as an actor on

both the small and the silver

screens, his accomplishments

achievements is for such a

familiar television face to be

taken seriously in the pop

world. "It's Saturday night,

let's rock!" he told a somewhat undersubscribed Wembley

Arena, and during a generous

two-hour show with a fine

seven-piece band, provided a

typically versatile and good-

Nail's second album of

Lady in the Dark

Maria Friedman's

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umoured speciacle.

seem limitless.

HE MAY look as if he could Versatile scare away crows for a living, but Jimmy Nail has a strong claim to the title of Britain's veteran most fully rounded entertainer. From scripting to songwriting, producing to per-

songs from his Crocodile Shoes TV project is a modest success compared with the first, million-selling volume from 1994. He opened here with Country Boy, the theme tune of the second series, easily scaling the vocal peaks of the recorded version.

He addressed his audience with a mixture of thespian confidence and working men's club bravado, and gradually coaxed some deserved response from a slow crowd

French-sounding singing from the Halle Choir and some exquisitely sensitive playing from an evidently enchanted orchestra. The most convincing aspect of Olivier Charlier's interpre-

convincingly

tation of Beethoven's Violin Concerto was his treatment of the cadenzas. If there is something slightly suspect about a Beethoven performance which is more secure, more purposeful and more stylish in passages which are not by Beethoven — they must be the best thing Kreisler ever wrote - it is undeniably useful for a soloist to be able to assert his authority where he is most exposed. Certainly, the audience in the Bridgewater Hall was far from unhappy with

GERALD LARNER

with a three-tiered set. The first also included Crocodile Shoes and two of the elegant songs donated to him for the series by Prefab Sprout's Pad-dy McAloon, Cowboy Dreams and Blue Room

In part two, he and the band were stage-front and acoustic, the toothsome bill of fare including Family's My Friend the Sun and On This Night of a Thousand Stars, the audition piece Nail performed to land his role in Alan Parker's film of Evita. Electric again for the final section, he gave us a heartfelt Big River, his song about his Tyneside childhood an opulent Love Don't Live Here Anymore and a spirited Ain't No Doubt. A thoroughly

likeable weekend diversion. PAUL SEXTON

VISUAL ART: John Russell Taylor finds much to enjoy in the work of an underrated Victorian



Alma-Tadema's The Roses of Heliogabalus. The impression is of almost dignified decadence, yet the subjects are about to be choked by petals

hen we read that a painter is a master of light, we normally imagine something in the Impressionist line, where solid form is dissolved in light and the illusion of light playing over surfaces is at once the means and the end of art. Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema would never qualify according to such presuppositions. Yet the predominant impression made by his works, collected in the definitive exhibition just arrived at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, from the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, is the painter's surpassing skill in moving light around his pictures, sculpting form, evoking texture and imbuing the whole with a magical atmosphere.

According to received wis-dom he is a sort of "Madame Tussaud of painting". But the other thing he has been called, "the DeMille of painting", is much nearer the mark - not in the derogatory sense that is usually intended, but in the cinematic quality of his images. Alma-Tadema was certainly much influenced by, and to an extent involved with. the sort of late-Victorian spec-

The DeMille of the canvas

cinema. But his brilliance in the disposition of lighting, especially indirect lighting and lighting from unexpected angles, marks him out even in a generation of virtuosi.

He possibly owed his enormous contemporary reputation to an unconscious awareness in his public that he was essentially garbing Victorian situations in fancy dress, so that his classical scenes appeared at once titillatingly exotic and comfortingly familiar. At the beginning of his career, in the 1850s and 1860s, he was quite content to paint the same sort of domestic and social scenes in a contemporary setting, or in the more fashionable Gothic style. Be that as it may, Alma-

Tadema rapidly threw off the

influence of early Dutch genre painting natural to his Dutch origins and training. By the time he moved to England in 1870, he was completely settled in his fantasy world of Mediterranean sunshine and shadow, flowing classical drapery and elegant, understated eroti-

cism which hardly ever trans-

gressed the bounds of

victorian good taste. That is not to say that his subjects were always as nice as might have been hoped: The Roses of Heliogabalus, for instance, depicts the mo-ment when the emperors guests are about to be asphyxiated in earnest by the ton of rose petals showered on them as they revel. But the most one would be aware of without prior briefing is that something decorative and presumthe delight of all present.

But there can be little doubting the unorthodox spirit of a painter who would essay such a subject in the first place. Over and over, the suspicion is irresistible that Alma-Tadema was trusting to a parade of archaeological accuracy to ward off criticism of the sometimes flagrant erotic content. It is not for nothing that the reclining nude with a strategically placed feather fan in Tepidarium of 1881 has, on at least three occasions, appeared as the jacket illustration for books about Victorian

Of course Alma-Tadema is by no stretch of the imagination pornographic, but it must be admitted that his pulses seem to run faster than those

of the impeccably discreen Lord Leighton, to whose centenary show at the Royal Academy last year this show is a sort of companion-piece. Leighton is perhaps the superior painter, but a certain bloodlessness has a chilling effect far distant from Alma-Tadema's sensu-

lma-Tadema, like DeMille, does not mind skirting vulgarity and appears to take positive pleasure in sneaking in forbidden materials under the cover of educational self-righteousness.

This show makes one understand both the enthusiasm of Alma-Tadema's contemporaries and the speed of the reaction against him after his death in 1912. Obviously he seemed irresponsible and chocolate-boxy in a world heading rapidly towards Armageddon. But from the safer distance of another fin de siècle, one can comfortably recognise his dazzling brilliance as a draughtsman and the sheer passion for painting which inspired him.

• Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (0151 207 0001) until June 8

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■ THEATRE

Mad monarch time for Ian Holm as he takes the title role in King Lear at the National Theatre **OPENS: Thursday**

REVIEW: Saturday



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BOOKS

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OPERA

Catherine Malfitano goes headhunting as Salome comes back to the Royal Opera House **OPENS: Saturday REVIEW: Monday**

TUESDAY TO **FRIDAY** IN SECTION 2

Battle of the ballerinas

DANCE: Debra Craine on the first night of Covent Garden's

enjoyable revival of La Bayadère

his is a tricky ballet to get right. With its lavishly exotic setting, its grandiose and hismionic gestures, its histily melodramatic scenario and its hilariously incongruous Viennese melodies. La Bayadère can easily be dismissed as a kitsch potboiler. Enjoyable yes, as indeed this revival is. But Petipa's 1877 oriental spectacle is more than that, It's the heartbreaking tale of poor Nikiya, the Indian temple dancer - the bayadere betrayed by her warrior lover and murdered by her royal rival. And her dance at their betrothal festivities is one of profound sadness. Or at east it should be.

The problem on Saturday, opening night of the Royal Ballet's revival of Natalia Makarova's production, was one of casting. Covent Garden fielded its two biggest female stars — Sylvie Guillem and Darcey Bussell - in the leading roles. But, as it turned out, they probably should have swapped places.

Guillem, for all her extraordinary talents, is not the ballerina to play Nikiya. Although she generated some wonderful moments of spontaneous delight in her first pas de deux with Jonathan Cope's Solor, her own personality as a dancer quickly got in the way. Her style is too ornate and ostentatious for a humble bayadère, her demeanour too grand to be reconciled with Nikiya's essential modesty. Indeed, Guillem possesses all the glamour and imperiousness that rightly belong to Gamzatti, the Rajah's daughter who steals Solor away from Nikiya. This was the part taken by Bussell, who was

more than happy with the difficult choreography, but not quite so effective in a role that requires her to subdue her

natural benevolence. Gamzatti and Solor's "do" in the palace garden is one of the highlights of the ballet, the scene in which the flashiest dancing takes place. Divertissements, solos and pas de deux busy a stage already brimful with partygoers. Bussell and Cope shone at the centre of it all, delivering generous and confident phrases of exciting dance.

Guillem's entry into the festivities announced that trouble was on the horizon. But the torment of Solor's betrayal was acted out by Guillem in an introspective solo that failed to ignite the tragedy of Nikiya's situation.

nd the subsequent Kingdom of the Shades, which finds the dead Nikiya starring in Solor's guilt-ridden, opium-induced hallucination, produced a surprisingly blank interpretation from Guillem. almost as if she could find no meaning in what is one of the most effulgent scenes in 19thcentury Russian ballet.

As the man in the middle of two formidable women, a dashing Cope seemed to be having a whale of a time. His initial scenes with Guillem were driven by a convincing ardour, and he had the decency later to look ashamed of himself for agreeing to marry Gamzatti. The production as a whole looked revivified, the cast having been coached by Makarova, and aside from a brief attack of the shakes, the Shades made a convincing case for themselves.



Sylvie Guillem: miscast as Nikiya in the Royal Ballet's revival of La Bayadère

FLORENCE revived Haydn's Orfeo. also known as L'anima del filosofo, for Maria Callas in the early 1950s. She sang only two performances before deciding that Eurydice was not for her. Haydn must shoulder some of the blame. Orfeo is a clumsity constructed piece as far as the lead soprano is concerned and he might well have tinkered with his only London-commissioned opera had it

Eurydice's death from the bite of a polsonous scrpent inspired Haydn to gets a look in. Felony is compounded

A joyous presentation of a Greek tragedy

pher is her advice, ringed around with clusters of high notes calculated to make audiences forget

all about Eurydice.

principals had sung there recently.

OPERA

Orfeo ed Euridice **QEH**

doing things as Eurydice expires. The sighing was rightly left to the orchestra, which had an invigorating evening under Frieder Bernius.

replacement as the Sibyl and she glittered away with a fusillade of high gave the Queen of the Night. The Sibyl comes and goes, but Orpheus himself is on stage for most of the time. Kurt Streit, a highly accomplished Mozartian, had no problems in a part punishing not least because of lengthy recitatives Haydn might have snipped a bit. Streit has the lyric qualities, which proclaim Orpheus the souther of souls, and also the bottom register to cope with the low notes strewn throughout the part. Creon, Eurydice's father, is a stereotype, but his three arias at least have variety as William Dazeley was quick to emphasise.

Terry Edwards's London Voices in this heavily choral work have to play everything from cupids to bacchantes Clean sound, poor diction.

There is a further performance

JOHN HIGGINS

THEATRE: Men behave badly; friends behave sadly

Desperately seeking two closet husbands

Exposition Arts Theatre

TWO COUPLES in Tom Minter's new play are torn apart by husbands who have bedtime secrets. Instead of staying at home with Laura, frustrated novelist William drinks heavily and stalks public toilets looking for rough trade. It comes along in the form of bleached blond Bobby (Robert Miles), who, when he has finished servicing William for a fee, turns up at barrister James's office to help him put in some unlikely overtime. Considering that James's career is dependent on detail and discretion, the ease with which the rent boy wafts through his office is irritatingly implausible. But then, so is

most of this play.

That best friends William and James lead clandestine gay lives outside their marriages, and that neither knows the other's secret, is not wildly improbable, but neither is it wildly convincing. It doesn't help that both wives are little more than wallpaper in Minter's meiodrama. Laurel Endelman's Laura and Kate Anthony's Joyce dutifully set up situations where their husbands can behave like churis.

The action is spread thinly over a week. The four first gather with the subtlety of buffalo to watch a French film; theatre, arguing about an issue play during the interval; and then they fall out — at least the men do - at a hind the squabbles in public and the rifts in private lies the fact that if William and James were honest with themselves, they should have been lovers when they were students, instead of cultivating convenient marriages and crippled lives. This is Minter's "exposition".

Revelatory it ain't. He searches in vain for the wit of Joe Orton and the wisdom of Mike Leigh. He finds neither. The dialogue works fluently on three levels:

ate William. You are never quite sure whether Niall Ashdown's surly William reels with self-pity or alcohol poisoning. Predictably the conviction of these performances flakes off as rapidly as the interest in Areta Breeze's woeful production. Andrew Hunt's set outperforms the cast, cleverly converting itself

over-emotive. Trevor Sellers's

James is boorish to his wife

Joyce and, for want of any other emotion, sadistic to

wards the financially desper-

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

from a cinema into what looks

aptly like an abattoir.



we next see them, at the the banal, the obscure and the

Trevor Sellers plays James the married barrister, Robert

Repulsive state of play

playwright that within a few moments of the opening, one already views the characters of his play with passionate irritation? If so, Declan notable craft. His latest for Rough Magic, Halloween Night (at Andrew's Lane), features a cast of self-obsessed, cowardly, drivel-spouting debauchees, each one of such uncommon repulsiveness that the prospect of spending even a couple of hours in their

company is distressing. True, even the playwright appears to have little sympathy for this gang, but its members are so potently unattractive that it soon becomes almost an impossibility to separate a growing irritation with them from feelings about

The friends have retreated to Ireland's western seaboard for a Halloween reunion. But although someone mentions a Halloween Night Dublin

been the base for a hipster design company and still features all-black decor, full-size mural of Géricault's Raft of the Medusa and a big dark, alcohol pit of a refrigerator. Kathy Strachan's sharp set design adds skulls, bones and other seasonal favours, but even without them the message is clear: this is a lair fit for only fin de siècle hobpoblins. An ensemble cast scratch.

claw and yawn their way through the night, editorialising on relationships, postnationalist politics, the significance of the Raft of the Medusa, the end of history and even foodies, who, one

iaded urbanite in a tailcoat suggests. are post-religious mystics with a desire to commune with God by eating him. The specific topics may be new, but the scenario is uncannily familiar. If the party's

recovering heroin addict movle director, Paddy, were to pitch Halloween Night as a feature he might describe it as Ken Russell's Gothic meets The Big Chill, or more pointedly, Friends in Hell,

The pitch might seem to bring things down to a coarse level, but Hughes's writing is never lavish with subtlety. For all his ambitious range of subjects. Hughes's conversations frequently seem to do no more than shrug at the tiresomeness of analyses. Matters are not entirely helped by Lynn Parker's direction. which conjures up plenty of forced debauchery, but little convincing hedonism. Spluttering between bouts of melodramatic Romanticism and dandyish chit-chat, between blow jobs and apocalyptic preachiness, this party (which transfers to London as part of the Donmar's Four Corners Season in April) turns out to be an arduous knees-up.

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been performed in his lifetime, which it was not.

one of his most powerful and dramatic numbers. But that comes midway through Act II and three more acts follow during which Eurydice scarcely in Act III Haydn gives the second soprano a brilliant display aria as the Sibyl, whom Orpheus consults about getting back his lost love. Take on the

The LPO gave Orfeo a rare airing in its current Haydn festival. It was

hardly the semi-staged performance promised: the chorus lined up at the back of the orchestra and the soloists at the front. But the cast was strictly operatic and showed the value of the LPO's Glyndebourne link. All the

Anne Trulove in The Rake two years ago and her Eurydice shows the same ability to convey purity and innocence. Her soprano stays light and delicate and she steered well clear of over-

Claron McFadden was a lateish

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loy, this is clearly not J.M. Synge's West. The cottage has

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Women's last stand in Oxford

Angelica Goodden on the ironies of men moving into St Hilda's

governing body of St Hilda's College, Oxford, to open its fellowship to men is widely thought to have delige widely thought to have delivered the coup de grâce to the university's single-sex tradition. But St Hilda's may yet re-Verse its decision, and for a significant reason. Perhaps the true issue is not the econontic factors that prompted the vote for change, but the cause of female academics. What St Hilda's plight shows is how badly the law against sexual

discrimination has misfired. It is widely known that women are chronically underrepresented in university life. Even in the United States, the Mecca of academics, barely 14 per cent of full professorships are held by women. In Oxford, women have a similarly low proportion of the permanent academic jobs; some faculties. including my own, have no female professors at all. Yet the proportion of female undergraduates at Oxford, like most British universities, is now some 40 per cent and will

soon reach parity with men. Common sense suggests that positive steps should be taken to increase the proportion of women in university

teaching; but because St Hil-da's elects only women to its tutorial fellowships, it is breach of equal opportunities legislapunished financially by its parent institution, Because St Hilda's does not actively support the rights of men, the

ford cannot legally support it who take education seriously. and contributes nothing to the cost of university lectureships that St Hilda's badly needs.

The irony, of course, is that the pendulum has actually swung decisively in the direction of "men's rights". Three of the other four colleges founded for women a century ago have male employment so enthusiastically that men constitute roughly three-quarters of their fellowship, though Somerville, the last to go mixed, has not yet emulated them. But perconscious enthusiasm. Men. so the argument goes, are simply better equipped to teach certain academic subjects (particularly scientific ones), and it is incumbent on any employer to choose the

best person for the job. No doubt there is some truth in this. But given growing concerns about "gender bias" at both senior and junior levels of academic life, a degree of scepticism is in order. Science fellows at St Hilda's are far from unanimous in agreeing that competent women cannot be found for appointments to scientific posts. Does the fact that men hold so many jobs in areas where women's strengths are acknowledged - that is, in arts subjects - mean that men are somehow better than women at making a case for themselves? Do men impress interviewing panels as more proficient, dynamic and capable than women? It is incontrovertibly the case that most men, not having children to bear, have more time to dev-

tion, with consequential benelits to their curriculum vitae. Aside from this, men applying for university jobs may simply assert an unconscious or semi-conscious authority that their historically disadvantaged female peers are without. The likelihood of bias in those who are assessing their relative professional strengths may seem remote, but it still deserves investigation.

The need is all the more pressing in the light of recent research at Cambridge which, while suggesting that female undergraduates find female supervisors less confrontational and intimidating than male ones, also indicated that the "masculine" qualities of ag-gressiveness, fearlessness, decisiveness and panache earn examination candidates more marks than the "feminine" qualities of patience and sensitivity. In other words, bravado (often disguising shallowness and lack of preparation) leads to a better degree than punctiliousness. The figures showing that men are awarded more firsts than women may simply mean that men, rather than being inherently more intelligent than women, have better

Perhaps, then, female lack of it - at senior levels of university life parallels female panache achievement (or the may be lack of it) at the junior level, with better the self-presentation rewarded skills more common in men than women than female

learnt how to sell themselves.

being decisive in both. This possibilipatience ty should cause grave concern to all The unique identity of an institution such as St Hilda's is

neither quaint nor irrelevant. As long as doubts remain about the equity of judgments of academic performance and potential, the importance of the female view must be tirelessly proclaimed. As long as the suspicion of subconscious discrimination on sexual grounds persists, the interests of those who may be so discriminated against must be

Trinancial pressures on

ing, and perhaps frighten women more than men. The fear of letting heart rule head itraditionally seen as a female weakness) has led a number of women at St Hilwishing to retain our distinctive character is a pragmatic impulse, not a product of emotional yearning. A college founded in the name of disadvantage, and which has been poverty-stricken since its foundation, cannot easily ride the financial storm which has long been brewing as a consequence of equal opportunities legislation. The old, strong desire to preserve the distinctiveness of an all-female institution should not hastily give way to market forces. Many beyond the college deprecate the stampede towards coeducation, declaring that variety is what the university needs. But none has ever attempted to translate conviction into

The author is a fellow of St Hilda's College.

The time for a change argument is boosting the Scottish Nationalists, but their hopes are unrealistic

S cotland's political mood is quite different from that in England, as Magnus Linklater has been telling us in articles on this page. Last Can Scotland go it weekend I went to see for myself. I had been invited to speak to a lunch alone into Europe? meeting in the Central Fife constitu-ency, where my younger son, Jacob, is the prospective Unionist candidate. This was not an election meeting the campaign has not started yet — but a serious discussion of the constitutional issues of Scotland's

support the Labour local government in big cities. John Smith was their relationships both with Europe and the United Kingdom. There was ideal leader, coming from the right wing of old Labour. Tony Blair is resented by many Scottish Labour supporters as an Englishman with a indeed a raffle for party funds: the first prize was the choice of a signed photograph of Margaret Thatcher or a bottle of whisky, and the winner fancy accent who has hijacked their party. The qualities that make Tony At the 1992 general election, the Blair popular in England tend to tell against him in Scotland. Conservatives won 25.7 per cent of the

If "time for a change" is working for anyone in Scotland, it is working for the SNP. It is picking up alienated Labour votes, but at the cost of appearing as a party to the left of Labour. Not so long ago. Labour activists sneered at the SNP as tartan Tories", and the SNP did indeed have right-wing as well as left-wing sup-porters. Now its right-wing support is drying up. Jacob has already been canvassing the more Conservative sections of Glenrothes, the new town which forms the main part of the constituency. Of the few who have raised the SNP question, three have said they would vote SNP, but three have said that they voted SNP at the last election but are not going to do so

again. That does not have the makings of an SNP landslide in File. There are not many Liberal Demo-crats in Central File, though they have Menzies Campbell next door in Fife North East, a Liberal-Conservative marginal. Menzies Campbell is a much respected figure in the old Scot-tish liberal tradition; I suspect that this tradition, which I admire, is as much in decline as the old Scottish Home. Scotland is not going back to

The Scottish Conservatives are suffering from the general unpopularity of the Government, but even that looks different north of the border. Scottish Tories do not talk much about John Major; the focus of their oyalty is much more likely to be Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State. He is a genuinely popular figure in Scotland, respected even by people opposed to his politics. Labour

William Rees-Mogg

knows that he is the Tory it has to beat. I heard one comment, not from a Conservative, that he has been "by light years the best Secretary of State of modern times". He is also seen by Scots as a real Scot, not an Englishman in a kilt. I would not give anyone else much chance of holding his ultra-marginal seat of Stirling, but he might just do it. If he does, he could come back to Westminster as the one member of the Cabinet with a really successful election campaign.

Europe is a good deal more popular in Scotland than in England. For the Scotlish voter, the European

of regional funds, and as a potential ally for Scottish nationalism, where-as English nationalists see Europe as a threat to national independence. Euroscepticism has little resonance in Scotland. I found that the issues which might arise from the SNP's policy of an independent Scotland inside the European Union were new to most of my audience. I suspect that

many Scots see the appeal of the

policy but have not yet seen its There are two European objections to admitting a separate Scotland. The first is funding. Ireland has been a very large beneficiary from EU funds, most of which are provided by Germany and some by the United Kingdom. Scotland would not get the same benefits as Ireland. After the experience of funding East Germany, and with the need to fund the East European candidates for entry to the EU, Germany will not take on an increased commitment to pay for scaland. The German economy is in difficulties, with high unemployment. The message that would be given to an applicant Scotland by the EU is "the gravy train has been cancelled until further notice".

Scotland might not be admitted at all All the larger European countries.

all. All the larger European countries have reason to fear the fragmentation of Europe. Scotland joined the United Kingdom by the Act of Union in 1706; Bavaria joined the German Empire only in 1871. Catalonia has as strong

claim to separate membership of the claim to separate membership of the EU as Scotland; so perhaps has Lombardy; so have the Basques, the Flemings and/or the Walloons. To admit a separate Scotland to the EU would threaten the disintegration of Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Belgium. That is not something the EU will be keen to facilitate.

The constitutional ferment in Scot-

The constitutional ferment in Scot-land is based on real emotions and is going to have an impact on the whole United Kingdom. The Unionists in Scotland naturally have a much better understanding of the reality of Scottish national feeling than anyone in London. They recognise the strength of Scottish national patriotism, which they share. What they fear is that a Scottish parliament, inevitably dominated by the Labour vote in Strathclyde, would quarrel with a future Westminster Parliament of a different party, as such a Scottish parliament might have quarrelled with Margaret Thatcher's administrations. They fear that such a quarrel would break up the United Kingdom. They want to find a better

way forward. One interesting new element has been injected into this debate: Andrew Neil has become editorial director of The Scotsman, which in two or three months has been changed almost out of recognition. It is now very reminiscent of the aggressive. anti-Establishment but open-market Sunday Times of the 1980s. The Scotsman's line on the sleaze allegations has been as tough as anyone's. Indeed, Scottish Tories much resent it. Yet Andrew Neil is not a little Scotland man, but a radical anti-Establishment Scottish Thatcherite like Michael Forsyth himself; both believe in meeting global competi-tion. The Adam Smith case for an open-market Scotland does not now lack champions. When the campaign starts, I think Jacob is going to have

Time to show some boldness

Peter Riddell

chose the photograph.

vote in Scotland, and 45.5 per cent in

England, a 20 per cent gap between the two countries; in 1997 that gap will

be much narrower. The Tories are far

behind 1992 in all the polls in Eng-

land; in Scotland they may actually increase their share of the vote.

There are a number of reasons for

this. The most important is that the

"time for a change" argument tells at least equally strongly against Labour in Scotland, Labour has been the maj-

ority party in Scotland as long as any-

one can remember, particularly domi-

nant in the big centres of population. Some of the support for the Scottish National Party (SNP) comes from this

factor of boredom. The central group in the Labour leadership — Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, Robin Cook and Donald Dewar — all have Scottish connections, though Tony

Blair is not seen as Scottish in Scotland. For the English voters, this is a new team: for Scottish electors.

such figures are as over-familiar as the

Scotland is also suspicious of new

Labour. Scottish Labour voters are

Tory team in England.

says Labour's

election-winning

strategy is short

on frankness

ony Blair should start taking some risks. He often savs privately, "You don't think I have been so radical with the Labour Party only to be cautious in government". But that is the impression that Labour's safety-first campaign is giving. The party's leaders are so obsessed with avoiding the mistakes of the past — understand-ably after four successive defeats that they have adopted a minimalist strategy: attack the Tories on the "enough is enough" theme and make no controversial promises. That approach looks like working on May 1, but it will not prepare voters for what

is needed in government.

Mr Blair's advisers argue that there is an election to be won, and that the time for risks and frankness is afterwards. Anyway, Labour has been more responsible than past Oppositions, promising only what it can deliver. Mr Blair is, admittedly, in a very different position from Harold Wilson after the February 1974 election, when he was faced with a ragbag of expensive promises made to trade union and party activists, which he spent his final two years as Prime Minister evading. Mr Blair would have no such trouble on entering Downing Street.

But avoiding excess commitments is not enough. Gordon Brown has been right to insist upon tight spending controls, both to reassure the markets and to lower expectations. But he is being disingenuous in claiming merely that there is nothing in Labour's plans that would raise taxes, aside from the windfall levy on the utilities and the other. mainly gimmicky, "early" pledges. He drew a distinction yesterday, saying privatised utilities that



are regulated and licensed by statute would be "eligible" for such a levy. but only those that have earned excess profits will be "liable". This would limit the main impact to the regional electricity and water companies. Otherwise, by proposing an audit of the "books", Mr Brown is preparing the way for a "shock. norror" revelation when, as the incoming Chancellor, he can claim the figures are worse than he expected, and blame the Tories for

any need to raise taxes. But Mr Brown already knows that the projections in the Treasury's Red Book are flawed, even though he has pledged to maintain spending plans for the next two years. These spending totals, and the recent growth rate of health spending, can be maintained only by cuts in pro-grammes such as social security

RIDDELLON MONDAY

(which Labour has opposed), and/or by higher taxes. The overoptimism may be the Tories' fault, but the constraint is already clear. That is why Mr Brown is wrong to raise hopes about the early introduction of a 10 per cent starting rate of income tax. If this is to have any real impact, it will involve higher taxes for the better-off.

Mr Blair was right yesterday to mphasise in the News of the World the importance of trust on tax. But he may live to regret the firmness of his remark that "if, after five years, I break my promises on tax, on not raising basic and top rates of income tax, on trade unions and these essential things I have said we will do, we are gone. We are probably

finished for ever. Labour is in danger of being too clever by half, since the basic and higher rates are symbolic and are not the same as the overall tax burden. Even after Mr Brown's promise yesterday, not to increase national insurance contributions, there are many other ways not understand the distinction if personal taxes rise in other ways, and Labour would be accused of betraying the spirit, if not the letter, of Mr

Blair's pledge.
For all their caution about making new promises, Mr Blair and Mr Brown have so far failed to pre-pare the ground for the necessary and difficult decisions on paying for existing programmes, with the important exception of replacing stu-dent grants by loans. Avoiding pledges to reverse Tory changes is not

have to explore new ways of financing public services, such as an earmarked health tax, as well as further privatisation.

Labour's risk-averse strategy has drawn heavily on the lessons of the Clinton campaigns in 1992 and 1996, and is similarly driven by polling and market research. Mr Blair's ad-visers are worried by evidence of a sceptical mood among voters, and have been keen to minimise the distance between the main parties especially a single currency. This was reflected in the markedly sceptical, at times almost nationalist, language in Mr Blair's article in The Sun last Monday, which was followed by that paper's endorsement of Labour the

ven though Mr Blair is dubious about the merits of monetary union now, his vision of Britain's role in Europe is totally different from the populist scepticism of The Sun. Labour advisers are being too cynical for their long-term good. They say wait until after the election and you will see our true pro-European colours". I agree. Mr Blair will be keen to demonstrate that he wants, and is able, to pursue a more positive approach than John Major could. But a willingness to compromise at the Amsterdam summit in June will bring charges of betrayal from some of his fair-weather supporters

in the press.

Mr Blair has a clear idea of his priorities on education, welfare reform, relations with business and Europe, and constitutional reform. He knows what he wants Britain to be like in five years' time. But he has not spelt out what this will involve. the means as well as the ends. The ruthless and so far successful campaigning strategy risks being all things to all people. Labour will no doubt claim that if it wins a big majority, it will have a mandate for its programme. But it will not if it fails now to address the choices facing Britain. Mr Blair should show some of the same boldness as a prospective Prime Minister that he has displayed as Labour leader.

And be damned

WRITERS who feel badly treated unlikely hero in Darius Guppy. Last week, via the High Court, he instituted proceedings against his publisher. Blake Publishing, in order to recover the third and final payment for his autobiography.

Before taking on this new role as publishing's Wat Tyler, Citizen



Guppy: upper hand

Guppy was best known for his Pink Pantherish attempt to defraud Lloyd's of London with a faked jewel theft. Bungling on the job landed him a spell in chokey, which was awkward for one who had served as best man to the present Earl Spencer.

Blake Publishing, whose stable includes Ronnie Kray, the former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith and the Duchess of York's psychic friend Madame Vasso, paid Guppy a hefty advance for his book. When the final cheque was due, however, Guppy was told several times that it was "in the post".

After a couple of months, he grew fed up and on March 6, after Blake failed to put in a defence, he obtained a judgment ordering it to cough up or give a good reason for not doing so, and on March 17 he applied to have its assets seized. All rather embarrassing for Blake, which is

said to want to go upmarket. All rights and royalties from the book and an expected film should now revert to Guppy, who is revelling in the fight. Now he has the law working for him rather than against him," says one close friend, "there's no stopping him."

• Good old Peter Mandelson, the caring new Labour campaign di-rector. When the election was called, he rallied the 100 or so youths who run the Labour war-room in Millbank Tower and told them they should follow his lead by taking plenty of vitamins and giving up alcohol for the duration. Over at Tory Central Office, they are without such pastoral care. After 10pm, out comes the whiskyand recriminations soon follow.

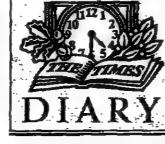
Yanked out

HORSEY English accents and Jermyn Street shirts were greatly in evidence at the opening of the International Asian Art Fair in New

York on Friday night.
Of the 50 exhibitors, 20 are from London, including the one-time Kensington Palace habitue Oliver Houre, the St James's gong-pediars Soink & Sons, Bond Street's John Eskenazi and Mount Street's Michael Gillingham, whose left eyebrow quivered in discreet ecstasy at the dollar sales figures.

At the bar it was British G & Ts all round, with one son of Albion loudly calling out: "None of that ice in mine, thank you, Luigi." Could this really be Manhattan? All that was missing was the

Duchess of York, who was expected

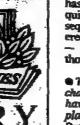


to arrive with the Hong Kong billionaire David Tang. Her place was capably filled by a svelte Ghislaine Maxwell. The Old Marlburian ex-pat manfully resisted the lentil curry canapes, explaining: "Me skirt will burst if I do."

Scotch broth

NOT before time, Scottish Opera, one of the most troubled opera companies in the world, has chosen a martinet as its new general director. Ruth Mackenzie, 40, has earned a formidable reputation as executive director of Nottingham Playhouse for the past seven years. She will take up her Scottish posting in September. "I am thrilled to be joining the company at so excit-

In recent years, Scottish Opera



has been getting through staff as quickly as Liberace went through sequins. Last year it even considried. They called this event an ered doing away with its orchestra — an essential, one would have thought, for an opera company. Tired of Tupperware, chafed by charity work, the ladies who lunch

have a new excuse to run up their platinum card bills. in Langan's Brasserie, Mayfair, the other day a table of women with fixed hair and fixed tans sat surrounded by the rubble of a champagne lunch. One of them was wearing a veil. On inquiry it turned out they were cele-



Ring cycle
ON the day of the Tories' victory

in the 1992 general election, Michael Portillo, then Minister for Local Government, pulled out his mobile telephone in an Italian restaurant and rang his Labour Shadow

brating the fact that their veiled friend had decided not to get mar-

David Blunkett to gloat. This time round, Blunkett is hoping for revenge. He bumped into Portillo recently in the Commons and demanded his mobile number. Portillo promised to send it round the next day, blithely brushing aside the possibility that this time round it will be him eating the humble pie and Blunkett

As I say...

BACK IN January, PHS predicted that it would not be long before Honor Fraser, the Scottish model, was signed up as the face of the French fashion house, Givenchy. Now, according to those close to her, it's a deal.

Miss Fraser, sister of Lord Lovat. has been close to Alexander Mc-



Honored in France

Queen, chief designer at the French fashion house, ever since he was cutting frocks on his kitchen table. Her cousin, Stella Tennant, will doubtless be passing on advice, having ousted Claudia Schiffer to become the face of Chanel last year. The money Miss Fraser is likely to make from the contract should ensure that she need never concern herself with the cost of a laddered

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Tensions that built

to Albania's crisis

Sir, Much recent reporting of the Al-

banian crisis has suggested that the collapse of the fraudulent pyramid

savings schemes is the main cause of

resentment against President Sali Berisha. The problems of Albania go

In 1995 we were members of a dele-gation to Albania sponsored by the Council of Churches for Britain and

Ireland. During that visit we met

church leaders and aid workers to

hear their concerns and in a personal

meeting with the President we

rights abuses, corruption among members of the Democratic Party, ar-bitrary decision-making by officials for personal gain, the lack of a legisla-

tive framework for the equal treat-

ment of all Christians and Muslims,

and concerns in advance of the 1996

Albanian elections (which we now

Subsequently, we have been con-

cerned by reports of Albanians being

harassed and beaten up by members of the Shik (the Albanian secret police

who replaced the former communist

Sigurimi), which indicate a growing

intolerance by President Berisha of plural political activity in the country.

international community support the

cause of democratic and constitution-

al government in Albania and we

hope they will back that support with

economic aid and inward investment

to provide Albanians with real em-

ployment prospects and the constitu-

If not, internal tensions will contin-

ue and Albanians will continue to be-

come economic migrants in Greece,

Italy and Germany or refugees on

rusting hulks in the Adrianc. The dan-

ger to the entire Balkan region and the

cost to the international community

will then be incalculable.

Yours sincerely, †ALWYN CAMBRENSIS,

(CCBI Balkans Working Group),

(Baptist Union of Great Britain), Bishop's House, St Asaph, Denbighshire, LL17 OTW.

tional freedoms we take for granted.

We are anxious, therefore, that the

know to be justified).

They included reports of human

brought them to his attention.

much deeper than that.

From the Archbishop of Wales

and others



HARD LABOUR

Blair has to stick to tough free-market employment policies

Britain is booming, proclaims the latest Tory election poster. Unemployment has fallen to just 6.2 per cent, the Office for National Statistics announced on Wednesday. Why, then, are jobs still cited as the third most important problem facing Britain, after health and education? And why is Labour seen as having better policies on unemployment by a majority of three to one?

SIIC STREET STRE

An informed debate on employment issues ought to play a central role in the election campaign. And a proper under-standing of these issues will be even more important after the voting is over, since a Labour government would be under intense pressure from its supporters to revert to a traditionalist strategy on job creation, workplace conditions and union rights. The critical arguments about employment, discussed in today's Election Guide on page 6, can be boiled down to two points.

While Britain's job market has performed well by European standards in the three years of economic recovery since the 1991-92 recession, the long-term employment record in the 18 years of Tory government gives no cause for self-satisfaction. Unemployment today is still higher than it was when Margaret Thatcher took office. This one fact may alone be sufficient to explain the a continuing public anxiety about jobs, even without considering the less secure nature of today's employment, the widespread hardship caused by compulsory early retirements and the big transfer of jobs in favour of women and part-timers at the expense of full-time men. Another statistical cause for concern is that the total rate of employment growth in Britain since 1979 has not been significantly higher, despite all the newfound flexibility and deregulation, than in the hidebound economies of France, Italy and probably Germany (where figures have been distorted by reunification in 1989).

But against all these disappointments must be set one overwhelming and unquestionable achievement of the Tory period: the taming of the trade unions and the creation of a completely new culture of economic realism, productivity, and competitiveness in British industrial relations. It is easy to forget that the question of whether the country should be governed by Parliament or by trade unions dominated British politics not only in the 1979 election, but also in the the elections of 1974, 1970 and 1966. During both of the last two Labour Governments, ministers found it literally impossible to imagine how they could run the economy and avoid galloping inflation without imposing incomes policies and offering the unions decisive political power.

By breaking the monopoly power of the trade unions, by deregulating the labour market, and by focusing economic policy on incentives, productivity and profits, rather than political intervention, archaic tradition and coercive rights, the Tories put in place the foundations for an economic renaissance in Britain. If the benefits of these reforms have not yet been more impressively manifested, the explanation lies partly in the Tories' own macroeconomic mismanagement, but also in the simple fact that supply side reforms inevitably take many years to produce results. A newly elected Labour government could conclude that the Tories' employment reforms were not, after all. what the country needed and drift back to the old collectivist approach. This would be nothing short of a tragedy for Britain.

Tony Blair seems aware of the disastrous consequences of returning even part way to his party's old policies on employment. But a Labour government, by its very nature, would contain loud and powerful voices for turning back the clock. And many of Mr Blair's policies - on the social chapter, on minimum wages and on union recognition - suggest that he may be ready to appease the traditionalists. Nothing will be more important for Mr Blair than to resist old Labour's siren calls for re-regulating the workplace - and nothing will be harder.

RUSSIA'S WOUNDED PRIDE

The West must show that Helsinki was not another Versailles

President Yeltsin surprised everyone at come to the treaty of Versailles. The parallels Helsinki last week with his physical vigour and political agility. Fit, alert and jovial, he spent long hours negotiating with President Clinton and decided to make the best of a weak hand. Knowing that he could not stop the eastward expansion of Nato, he used the occasion to wring from Mr Clinton what virtually full membership of the renamed "Summit of the Eight", he was offered a rapid beginning to Start 3 negotiations on nuclear reductions and he was given assurances of backing for Russian membership of the World Trade Organisation and the Paris Club of export credit agencies.

On the crucial issue of Nato expansion. however, he achieved almost nothing. Mr Clinton promised that no nuclear weapons or military infrastructure would be deployed on the territory of the three proposed new members; and he promised a document in the next few weeks detailing Russia's role in co-ordinating policy with Nato. Both had long been assumed to be the minimum necessary to allow expansion to go ahead at all. Mr Yeltsin won no new assurances that former Soviet republics would be kept out of Nato and no guarantee that the proposed Nato-Russia Council would be legally binding. All he obtained was an agreement to disagree and soothing words about Nato's peaceful intentions.

To Mr Yeltsin's critics, his performance was lamentable. Accusations of capitulation echoed around Moscow even before he arrived home. The Communists said out loud what everyone in Russia, and the West, recognises: Russia is being admitted "no further than Nato's cloakroom". More ominously. Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader, compared the summit outmay not be exact. But if Russians are provoked by nationalist demagogues into believing that their country has been "stabbed in the back," long-term hopes for East-West stability can only suffer.

For the moment, Mr Yeltsin can probably ride out the storm. His remarkable physical initiative. In any case, the Nato setback may soon be overshadowed by a challenge far more immediate to Russian voters: the threat of a nationwide strike on Thursday by millions of workers unpaid for months. The strike could be a catalyst for other pent-up grievances, and violence is likely. The Government is particularly worried about 17 regions where the economic situation is especially bad and where opposition leaders are encouraging the strike.

Mr Yeltsin may try to intervene personally to mitigate the damage to his popularity inflicted in Helsinki. He must find a way to break the vicious circle of uncollected taxes and unpaid salaries and pensions. Unless the real grievances of millions of desperate workers can be assuaged, further reform will be thwarted. Too many Russians already associate privatisation with private plunder, capitalism with criminality.

Nato comes well down the list of the Russians' concerns, behind crime. unemployment and ethnic conflict. But the West should not gloat about using this window of opportunity to enlarge Nato while Russia is weak. Russians have long memories, a strong sense of their country's history and dangerous resentments. Mr Clinton may believe he won all he wanted in Helsinki. He must now redouble his efforts to prevent the Russians believing they lost too much.

CLASS DISTINCTIONS

Two worlds of student life revealed by a new survey

Britain's universities boast undergraduates who are more than a degree apart. A new survey, which we report today, reveals an aristocracy alongside an impoverished rump. While the smart set heads for Latin America for the duration of the long vacation, the poor relations can look forward to a summer spent stacking shelves at the local supermarket. While Katherine has the fast car, personal computer and mobile phone, poor Darren survives on baked beans all term with an adverse effect on his social life. The enormous expansion of higher education has brought not a new egalitarianism but a fresh elitism, based on

high technology possession. This study rings true to those who have experience of modern campus life. There is barely room for the poor professor's ancient Mini Metro in car parks heaving with the Aston Martins owned by those they teach. Students read essays from their laptops. Lectures are constantly interrupted by the annoying chimes of mobile phones. Most students, of course, have none of these trinkets. But this only adds to the brazenness of those who do and who look forward with confidence to a starting salary comfortably

in excess of their tutors'. Was it not ever thus? The pre-war Oxford of Brideshead Revisited had far deeper and starker social divisions. Then the young

gentlemen would spend an easy life based around their dining societies, rarely even bothering to sit their final exams. Meanwhile, the grammar school boys would cluster in the libraries, seeking them out as much for warmth as wisdom.

At least today it is not impossible for the average student to improve his or her lot. Companies are increasingly keen to employ them during the vacation, not least as a means of ensuring future recruitment. The slow erosion of the student grant has persuaded most that such work is not beneath them. Most undergraduates seem to survive despite skirmishes with the bank manager.

Other aspects of the survey debunk longestablished student myths. Lager, not LSD, remains the preferred external stimulant. Tastes in radio and television look distinctly conventional. And more students choose to read this newspaper than any other. Whatever expensive gadgets the students may or may not own, a decent degree and well-paid job at the end are common objectives. Some still reflect wistfully on the revolutionary spirit of the 1960s, but demonstrations now seem inefficient and low-tech compared with a protest on the Internet. The true icon to the 1990s university generation seems to be Bill Gates. not Che Guevara.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Tories' hopes and Labour's record

Publication in the public interest

From the Director of the Campaign for Freedom of Information

Sir, Some of the arguments raised by The Guardian's publication of evidence to Sir Gordon Downey (reports, March 21 and 22) were tested in the High Court in a 1994 case. On that occasion the court attached overriding importance to the need to allow electors to debate an issue of public interest before rather than after an elec-

Liverpool City Council had lost several million pounds after awarding a cable-laving contract to its own direct services organisation, despite warnings that it was ill-equipped for the task. The council commissioned accountants KPMG Peat Marwick to investigate. The Liverpool Echo learnt of the findings of KPMG's draft report. but was prevented from publishing them by an ex-parte injunction obtained by the firm, which the paper then challenged.

KPMG argued that it would be damaging to the individuals named in the report, and to its own professional interests, to allow anything other than the final report to be publicly debated. The newspaper pointed out that if the injunction stood the public would be denied the information until after the local elections, then some four weeks

away. Mr Justice Pill lifted the injunction, so that the findings could be "the subject of debate before the election". He commented:

There is a substantial sum of money involved, and the City Council elections are imminent. The pace at which the investigation has been conducted is not rapid.

... matters have not proceeded quickly. No good reason has been shown to me why the present stage should not have been reached some time ago. In my judgment the timescale is important in performing the balancing exercise, having regard to the imminence of the City Council elections.

... in my judgment, the public interest in ublication ... outweighs the interests which the Liverpool City Council has in re-straining publication. It further outweighs the public and private interests which the plaintiffs have and it outweighs those interesis in combination.

Yours sincerely, MAURICE FRANKEL, Director,

The Campaign for Freedom of information. Suite 102, 16 Baldwin Gardens, ECI. March 22.

Assisted places

The Mount School, York

Sir. Your leader of March 18, "A Girl's Best Chance", is very timely. Girls' public schools have indeed been pioneers in equal opportunities and thinking about the contribution women can make to society. Here, for instance, at The Mount Quaker School in the 1870s, girls were inspired to study astronomy by the radical socialist. Edward Carpenter, and took classes in geology. A debate on Home Rule electrified the school in 1888.

May I also extend the debate on the Assisted Places Scheme to embrace the role of Quaker schools, and others of like mind, which were founded in pursuance of "values" - those intangibles so warmly espoused by political

These schools inculcate not just hard work and high endeavour but service, personal responsibility and initiative, an international outlook and respect for others. They are feepaying because they could not otherwise exist - there is no state support available; but, thanks to bursaries and assisted places, their pupil body includes those with plenty of this world's goods and those with scarcely any. The loss of assisted places would merely restrict the intake, thus depriving a considerable body of children from experiencing the values of a Quaker school.

In many other areas of life we see bridges being built between the Labour Party and private enterprise: it is sad for those of us in education to see parallel bridges in our sector threatened with removal. It is difficult to un-

Charismatic services

1 00 Kall

From Miss Elizabeth J. Smith

Sir, It was heartening to read Magnus Linklater's considered piece ("How Scots Tories could surprise us", March 20) in the run-up to the election. He has maintained a commend-able objectivity in his observations about the political parties in Scotland. It makes a pleasant change from the untrammelled bias from the pens of too many of his colleagues north of the border.

No one doubts that the Scottish Conservatives face a challenge, but neither should there by any doubt that they are in good heart, nor that their message is sinking in.
I for one would be happy to join Mr

Linklater's betting friend in predicting that the "Tories in Scotland just might surprise us all".

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH J. SMITH (Prospective Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Edinburgh South). 13 Mentone Gardens, Edinburgh 9. March 21.

From Mr John E. Strafford

Sir, In his article (March 14) Matthew Parris states that "The Tories are heading for defeat". He goes on to argue that in such a case John Major should resist the pressure to resign

His article, however, is based on the presumption that it will only be the Parliamentary Conservative Party which will elect a new leader. Might I suggest that in the event of a defeat the whole of the Conservative Party would wish to participate in the election.

We know from your report (March 15) that "The Conservative Party is to press ahead with plans to change the rules for choosing its leader that would give party activists a vote for the first time". Any attempt to hold a leadership election on the old basis before the "grassroots" members of the party had decided to what extent they wished to be involved would. I feel sure, create strong and bitter resent-

Yours faithfully, JOHN E. STRAFFORD (Chairman, Campaign for Conservative Party Democracy), Perama, Fulmer Road, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. March 17.

derstand the logic of continued sup-

port for grant-maintained schools on

funding on the other.

BARBARA J. WINDLE,

Yours faithfully.

Headmistress.

March 18.

The Mount School

income families.

Dalton Terrace, York.

From the President of the

Girls' Schools Association

Sir. The advantages to girls of single

sex education are well attested, and it

would be a grave pity if the abolition

of the Assisted Places Scheme were to

deny that option to girls from low-

However, concern is now surfacing

about the underachievement of boys.

The relentless spread of coeducation

may have contributed to this by polar-

ising the sexes, suggesting to boys that

academic achievement is "girlie" and encouraging them in laddishness, to

differentiate themselves as much as

possible from their female classmates.

for boys as well as girls.

JACQUELINE LANG.

Girls' Schools Association,

130 Regent Road, Leicester.

From the Headmaster of

Nottingham High School

Sir. At a conference in London this

week on the future of independent

education (report, March 18) Mrs

Margaret Hodge, shadow education

spokeswoman, maintained that as-

Yours faithfully.

President.

So girls' schools are possibly good

From Mr B. Stansfield

Sir, Linda Moule (letter, March 21) is right to invoke elderly Conservatives to remind first-time voters of the reality of life under a Labour government.

Oh for a return to those heady days of affordable prescription charges, dental care, eye tests, residential care for the elderly, secure caring help for the mentally ill, only half a million unemployed, pre-Beeching railway services in rural areas, substantially lower crime figures, etc. etc.

Yours faithfully, B. STANSFIELD, Borthwick Park, Orton. Wistow, Peterborough, Cambridge.

From Dr Kenneth E. C. Macaulay

Sir, Perhaps those good people who follow the advice of your correspondent Mrs Moule could also remind us of the meaning of the term "the NHS safe in our hands" when Mrs Major (report, March 20) is seen to give an award to a child who sold her toys to pay for her grandfather's cancer treatment.

Yours sincerely, KENNETH MACAULAY, 3 Glamis Gardens, Dalgety Bay, Fife.

From Miss J. V. Morton

Sir, My father had a story of the canvasser in a 1930s general election being told bluntly by the householder: "I'm going to vote for Mr Baldwin. He promises nothing and he keeps his word."

Yours faithfully, JANE MORTON, May's House, Fritwell, Bicester, Oxfordshire. March 21.

From Mr Peter Grafton

Sir, The Hale-Bopp comet, like some of its historic predecessors, may pressage some unexpected catastrophe. Perhaps Tony Blair should consult his astrologer as to whether he is more likely, come election day, to be hailed or bopped!

sisted-place schools were complaining

about the planned phasing-out of the

In rebutting this disgraceful and

unfounded accusation - which in it-

self demonstrates a complete lack of

understanding of just how much as-

sisted-place schools are already subsi-

dising the scheme from their own

funds - I made the point that the res-

ponse of my own governors to the threatened end of the scheme was a

very positive attempt to make provi-

sion for some assisted places from

I further indicated that this was be-

ing done in addition to existing schol-

arship provision, at very considerable

financial hardship to the school, and

driven by the belief that it is vital for

us to maintain a wide social mix, thus

continuing the school's tradition of the

We are in a relatively rare position

among schools participating in the scheme. The majority, with no found-

ation income to call on, would be un-

able even to consider self-financing as-

sisted places. Even those few fortunate

enough to have such an income can

contemplate introducing only a very

For Mrs Hodge to suggest, as she

did, that a school such as this "could

carry on the benefits that the scheme

brings" is consistent with current pub-

lished Labour thinking: ie, the figures

small proportion of places.

Nottingham High School,

Waverley Mount, Nottingham.

were when I visited that country for

the first time recently. Chancellor's

comments about the need for an inter-

preter or, as he put it, "an Olga",

seemed to reinforce the general sense

of surprise he felt at all the strange-

I am most grateful to Mr Chancel-

lor for reminding me how lucky I am

to be living in this country and not one

of those foreign places where things

just do not add up.

Yours faithfully, CHRIS PARKER,

ness around him.

are all so different.

NICHOLAS BRIDGE,

11 Melrose Avenue, N22.

Yours faithfully,

March 16.

Headmaster.

March 19.

their own foundation income.

Yours faithfully, PETER GRAFTON, 57 Padbrook. Limpsfield, Oxted, Surrey, March 21.

self-interest".

last 500 years.

From Sir John Stokes

March 21.

BRYAN OWEN

G. R. SPARKES

Sir, I write in support of Lord Bethell's letter (March 17) about Berisha. In 1992 I was asked by the Council of Europe to lead a delegation to oversee the elections in Albania. We met Mi Berisha and formed a good opinion of him and we also went all over the country and were satisfied that the elections were both free and fair.

Recently Mr Berisha may have been unwise and unlucky, but he is not a bad man and I do not believe he should be castigated for all the chaos. that now exists in Albania.

Yours faithfully, JOHN STOKES. 4 The Bradburys, Stratton Audley, Nr Bicester, Oxfordshire, March 18.

Doctor off duty

From Mrs Mary Stones

Sir, You report (March 20) a campaign to discourage patients being in need of their GP over Easter.

No one in Stradbroke dared call Dr Drawner at weekends, and this was over 30 years ago. His successor was very surprised how peaceful it had been on his first duty Bank Holiday in the village.

Yours faithfully, MARY STONES. The Cottage Farm. Stradbroke, nr Eye, Suffolk. March 20.

You've been warned From Mr Robert Vincent

Sir. My local newspaper warns me that the Council for the Protection of Rural England is recommending that all those people who love the countryside should get out and enjoy its peace and tranquillity. To that end it is naming June 7 and 8 a National Picnic Weekend. As my house is surrounded by fields

and grassland in this remote part of the Hampshire/Wiltshire border, I fear June 9 cannot come soon enough.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT VINCENT, Dilly House, Wildhern, Andover, Hampshire. March 20.

Home and away

From Mr Richard Lloyd

Sir, Further grounds for concern about standards of education are highlighted by your report (Sport, March 18) on the schools seven-a-sides at Rosslyn Park.

The team from Culford School was depleted when some of its players, on a journey from Suffolk to southwest London, managed to get lost in Hampshire. I trust the geography master will take immediate action, as and when they find their way back.

Yours faithfully. RICHARD LLOYD. 8 Station Road, Lingfield, Surrey. March 18.

Foreign parts

From Mr Wes Sutton

Sir. While I have great sympathy for the young lady in her lack of friends at Sunday school ("I'm lonely, says Sunday school girl ...", March 17), I am interested in your reporter's use of the derisive term "happy clappy", giving the impression, as it seems to me, that these with a profound sense of joy and passessing the means of expression are to be pined.

As the senior pastor of such a "happy and clappy" church I can assure you that those of us who rejoice in the person of Jesus Christ do so not as an escape from reality, but as a means of gaining strength, so that we can be involved in bringing a better and more satisfying way of living even to those who would regard us with pity.

Yours pyfully. WES SUTTON (Senior Pastor. Vinevard Church, Loughton). 63 Algers Road, Loughton, Essex, March 18.

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046.

From Mr Nicholas Bridge

Sir, In his travel feature on Russia "You need an Olga to clear your path", Weekend, March 15) Alexander Chancellor managed to convey many of the aspects of "the Englishman abroad" which foreigners find so entertaining.

offer the radical suggestion that the reason people did not speak to him in English was because they were in fact Russian? I cannot help but recall how useful one or two words of Russian

To take just one example, could I

From Mr Dan Clifton Sir. You report (March 20) the

German map auction

planned auction of German maps of Great Britain, dating from the Second World War, which were designed for use in an invasion.

Such original documents are obviously of great interest to members of the public and historians alike. What is interesting, however, is that unlike these documents recovered by a British soldier in Germany, many of our own official records concerning Germany's wartime activities in Britain remain secret, more than 50 years

On the advice of the Public Record Office I recently applied to the Courts Service, an agency of the Lord Chancellor's Department, for the release of documents relating to the treatment and detention of wartime spies. Yet remarkably, despite the 30-year rule and the open government initiative, I was told the papers must remain secret. I find this hard to credit.

Yours sincerely. DAN CLIFTON. 46 Handforth Road, SW9. March 20.



1000 1 1 100

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 22: The Duke of Edinburgh this morning left Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. His Royal Highness arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt this evening. Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 22: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, and Chairman. International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, this morning flew from New Delhi to Calcutta for a day of

His Royal Highness was received on arrival by Mr Simon Scadden (Deputy British High Commissioner) and was given a formal Indian welcome by Awardees before meeting the Committee of the Indian Award East Zone. The Prince Edward afterwards

viewed a demonstration of outdoor activities by Award participants at Salt Lake Stadium before visiting the Victoria Memorial. His Royal Highness later visited the All Bengal Women's Union and met Award participants

undertaking their service section in the orphanage, old people's home, school and hospice, as well as children participating in the Award from the orphanage. The Prince Edward this after

noon attended a Luncheon given by the Bengal Chamber of Com-

merce at the Bengal Club. His Royal Highness later visited an exhibition of Award activities

and attended the Indian Award East Zone Award ceremony in the

Taj Bengal Hotel. The Prince Edward flew from Calcutta to Madras this evening and was received on arrival by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency the Hon Sir David Gore-Booth) before boarding HMY Britannia.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 23: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's

Award International Foundation and Chairman, International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation. today undertook engagements in

His Royal Highness, accompa-nied by the British High Commis-sioner (His Excellency the Hon Sir attended a Reception and Lun-cheon for the Indian Award South Zone supporters at Chettinad

The Prince Edward this afternoon visited Chettinad Vidyashran and viewed Award activities before attending the Indian Award South Zone Gold Award ceremony.

His Royal Highness afterwards attended the Indian National Award Authority Council meeting. The Prince Edward held a Dinner this evening for the Award's World Fellowship and later held a Reception for the Indian Award on board HMY Britannia, followed by Beat Retreat by Her Majesty's Royal

Birthdays today

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Guy Acland, Deputy Master of the Household and Equerry to Her Majesty, 51; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Allison, 54; Mr David Alkin son, MP, 57; Mr Roy Berridge, former chairman, South of Scotland Electricity Board, 75; Miss Barbara Daly, make-up artist, 52; His Honour James Fox-Andrews, QC, 75; Mr Richard Giordano. chairman. BG, 63; Professor John Hedgecoe, Professor Emeritus of Photography, Royal College of Art, 60; Mr David Jewell, former Master, Halleybury College, 63; Sir John Kendrew, FRS, former President, St John's College, Oxathlete, 41; Sir Peter Leslie, former chairman, Commonwealth Dev elopment Corporation, 66; Mr Beniamin Luxon, baritone, 60; Sir Peter Meinertzhagen, former gen-eral manager, Commonwealth Development Corporation, 71; Her Honour Suzenne Norwood, 71; Dame Bridget Ogilvie, director, Wellcome Trust, 59; Sir Herman Ouseley, chairman. Commission for Racial Equality, 52; the Earl of Selborne, FRS, 57; Professor Doro-



Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, is 50 today

Royal College of Nursing, 67: Mr Alan Sugar, chairman, Amstrad, 50: Mr P.D.R. Venning, secretary, Society for the Protection of An-cient Buildings, 50: Professor H.B. Whistington CDS confest 51:

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will hold a reception at St James's Palace at 5.30 in connection with the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. in world conservation and the Millennium Seed Bank: and will attend a reception at the Dorchester hotel at 7.15 to mark the 50th anniversary of Pakistan's

The Princess Royal, as president of National Riding Week, will attend a Seminar on "Welfare Day" at Saddlers' Hall, at 10.25.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the London Philharmonic, to attend a concert at the Festival Hall at 7.10.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William Morris, poet, artist, printer and socialist. Walthamstow, Essex, 1834: Silas K. Hocking, novelist and preacher. Brannel, Cornwall, 1850; Olive South Africa, 1855.

DEATHS: Queen Elizabeth I. reigned 1558-1603, Richmond, 1603; John Harrison, horologist and inventor of the marine chronometer, London, 1776; Charlotte Yonge, novelist, Otterbourne, 1901; John Millington Synge, dramatist. Dublin, 1909; Enrique Granados. Dublin. 1909; Enrique Granados. composer, drowned when the Sussex was torpedoed in the English Channel. 1916; Mrs Humphry Ward, novelist, London, 1920; Orde Charles Wingate, leader of the Chindits, killed in an air crash, Assam, 1944; Mary, Queen Consort of King George V, Marl-borough House, 1953; Bernard Law Montgomery. Ist Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Hampshire, 1976.

The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race ended in a dead heat for the first time, 1877. Denmark abolished capital

punishment, 1911. Isabel Perón was deposed as President of Argentina in a blood-less coup, 1976.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy & Royal Marines
CAPTAIN: LP Brokenshire to NMA
Portsmouth, Sept 5: T J H
Laurence to MoD London. Sept 12:
J R Luard to IMS Brussels, April
20: T A Soar to Chatham in Cmd,
Sept 29. LIEUTENANT-COLONEL: D A Hopley to PJHQ in rank of Loc Col, July 4.

Hopley to PJHQ in rank of Loc Col, July 4.

COMMANDER: G A Anteliffe to Drake, Marke il; R S B Davies to MoD London, July 15; P J de Sa to MoD London, July 19; W F G Griffin to Navsouth Italy in rank of ArCapt, July 25; S W Howick to DRA Portsdown, Aug 1, In rank of ArCapt A M Hussain to BDS Washington, Aug 15; P C Ingham to Dartmouth BRNC, Sept 16; T M Lowe to MoD London, Sept 2; J F C Lunn to Staff of 2SL/CNH, Sept 2; A D H Mathews to DNP Bristol, July 18; 1 Moncrieff to Invincible, March 25; J D Murch to MoD London, July 18; A R Nance to Montrose, Sept 2; R C Seaward to Navsouth Italy 279/97; M Storey to ISCSC March 19; G N Wright to Devonport, April 25; May 1; R N Wath to ISCSC March 19; G N Wright to Devonport, April 25.

MAJOR: T C G Hunter to HO ARRC in rank of Loc Li Col, July 14.

CHAPIAIN: B R Clarke to Exchange USA, July 7; J Hill to Collingwood, May 8; N J Keily to Devonport, Sept 2.

Retirements



Some biscuits go into the oven at the Recipe for Success course at Stroud

chiatric hospital, in the belief that medical treatment needed to be backed by encouraging patients to live in the "real" world, find jobs and cease to depend on benefits. Christine Gascoyne, the project manager, says: "The first thing we do is to try to get them to laugh, to see the funny side of things, to see life in balanced terms and to enjoy themselves."

NACHELLE CROWTHE

Among those at the classes are two qualified chefs. One, Anthony Cawthraw, has been coming to the project for help and advice for the past four years. In between, he has worked in hotels and pubs but he says. "things have not always worked out as planned. Meeting other people with similar difficulties has enabled him to become more self-confident and to enjoy life more.

Recipe for Success is among the entries for the 1996 Community Enterprise Awards, organised by Business In the Community and sponsored by The Times and Deloitte & Touche. The winners will be announced in the next few

Nature notes

THE first swallows are back, early this year: they have flown all the way from South Africa. On arrival, they feed on insects over lakes and rivers, and only move on later to the barns and countryhouse garages where they will nest. Their small, brown relatives the sand-martins are also coming in from the south: they will nest in tunnels in sandbanks and quarries.

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE young people who gath-

er three days a week in a

former boathouse on the edge

of an industrial estate near

Stroud in Gloucestershire

have one thing in common. They have all had mental

Mostly in their menties

and thirties, friendly and well

mannered if slightly diffident.

they are attending a cookery

class on how to prepare a

nourishing meal for eight

The so-called Recipe for

Success course is part of a

project to help people who have suffered mental health

problems to regain their place

in society and become self-

sufficient. It was started four

years ago, initially in co-operation with a nearby psy-

people for 50p a head.

health problems.

Long-tailed tits are making their mossy, domed nests in thy Severin, Professor of Spanish,
Whittington, FRS, geologist, 51;
Liverpool University, 55; Miss
Mr P.S. Winfield, former senior
Maude Storey, former President,
partner, Healey and Baker, 70.

Retirements
COMMANDER: H R Evans, May
28; G McAleese, May 9; R M Frynn,
Msy 2; C P Young, April 25.

Retirements
COMMANDER: H R Evans, May
28; G McAleese, May 9; R M Frynn,
Msy 2; C P Young, April 25.

Dog-violets are in flower:



The swallow

them with up to a thousand feathers. Carrion crows and magpies are building their bulky nests of sticks and mud

they have deep purple, scentless blossoms with a creamcoloured spur at the back. The first wild forget-me-nots are making blue patches at the foot of hedges. Whitlow grass is in bloom it is one of the smallest British flowers, with stalks an inch or so high and tiny white blossoms, and grows among moss on the ground. Honeysuckle is in leaf: its blueish-green foliage entwines the trunks of small

Hoverflies and gnats are in the air, and spiders are spin-DJM

Marriages :

The Hon Christopher Knollys and Miss Sarah Gwynne The marriage took place on Sat-urday at St James Garlickhythe of the Hon Christopher Knollys, sec-

ond son of Viscount and Viscountess Knollys, to Miss Sarah Gwynne, elder daughter of the laze Mr E. St.I. Gwynne and of Mrs William Merton, and step-daughter of Mr William Merton. The Rev John Paul officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, was attended by Kitty Hall, Emma Snowball, Flora Stobart, Alexandra Triay, Harry Boscawen and George Davenport. Mr Jeremy

Hall was best man.
A reception was held at Vintners'
Hall and the honeymoon will be speni zbroad. Mr S.C. Becker

and Miss R.E.L. Goodwin The marriage took place on Saturday, March 22, at Kensington United Reformed Church, bet Simon, son of the late Mr. George Becker and of Mrs Delphine Guise and Rachel, daughter of Mr. Kenneth Goodwin and Mrs Par-ricia Goodwin. The reception was held at Marble Hill House,

Mr A.I. de Garr Rebinson and Miss M.J. Wilson The marriage took place on Sut-urday, March 22, 1997, in London of Tony de Garr Robinson and Miranda Wilson.

Service dinner Maker Regimental Association

Major E. Stanley-Jones presided at the annual reunion dinner of former officers of the Mahar Regiment and their ladies held on Saturday night at Moreton-in Marsh, Gloucestershire.

Dinner

Old Framinghamians Mr J.C. Gooderham, President of the Society of Old Framing-hamians, was in the chair at the society's annual dinner held on Sarurday at Framtingham College A presentation was made to Mr. R.W.R. Smith on his retirement as trustee of the society for 20 years.

Association of District Judges

The following have been elected officers of the Association of District Judges for the ensuing year: President, District Judge Godfrey Evans, Senior Vice-President, District Judge Michael Hawthorne, Junior Vice-President, District Judge Richard Hollowny.

Tudor Hall

Entry scholarships have been awarded at 11+, 12+ and 13+ to Manilda Hawkins, Garden Hibse; Manda Hawkins, Garden Febise, Annabel Howard, Beeston Hall: Georgina Harris, Winchester House and Rosie Wati, Moor Park, Shith-form travel scholar-ships have been assented to Sala Lewis and Rate Fortescue Halling Lews Downs, north Kenya, Flora Barnett and Kate Shortt going in the footsteps of Van Gogh in France, and Nerea Himpeter photographing water fowl in a wildlife reserve in Andalucia. Southern Spain.

Forthcoming marriages

4 7-1-

Mr LP.K. Daly and Miss A.M. Wright The engagement is among between James, only son of Ner and Mrs Dermot Daily, of Willington, Tarporley, Chadlare, and Alex, elder daughter of Mrs John Wright, of Bury, West Star-sex, and Mrs Ann Dickstate, of Maidenhead, Berkshire

Mr S.N. Fox and Miss S.L. Midwood The engagement is sunmended between Simon, younger sound Mr. David Fox and Mrs Shena Par, of Zimbabwe, and Sarah, younger daughter of the late Mr Throdiy-Midwood and of Mrs dans Midwood, of Tarporley. Chestere. Mr T.P.J. Groves and Miss K.S. Belion

The engagement is atmosphered between Thomas, son of Mrs. Gwyneth Groves and the late Mr Kenneth Groves, of Upmigater, Eases, and Kerry, youngest daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs James Belign, of Remham, Essex.

Mr R.G. Jarvill. AAC, and Miss N.D. Buckingham Separt

The engagement is announced The engagement is summing to between Richard, elder som of Michael Jarvill, rend, of Bratton, Wilshire, and Mis Andrew Peters, of Leeds, and Naomi (Noo), elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stewart Buckingham our and lours sewart Buckingham Smart, of Shenley, Hertiordinire. Dr E.M. Johnson and Dr M.L. Kane

The engagement is announced between Timothy, only sta of Mr.
Peter Jobson, of Hardwick, Bockinghamshire, and of Mrs. All
Kright, of Towersey, Oxfordshire, and Meridith, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Kane, of Orping-

ion, Kent. Mr J.R. McCormick and Miss S.J. Reed The engagement is amounted between James, eldest son of the baweer laines, cases and of the late Dr. Peter McCormick, and of Dr. Anna. McCormick, of Hardington Mandeville, Somerset, and Samantha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reed, of Harefield, Middleser.

Mr M, Smith and Miss E.M. Pawley The engagement is announced between Mark, youngest son of Mr G. Smith, of Gloucester, and Mrs V. Anglin, of Bristol, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Hodges, of Coleinal,

Mr R.C. Solly and Miss K.A. Squire The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of John and Frances Solly, of Affpuddle, Dorset, and Katie, elder daughter of Michael and Amerite Squire, of Hutertrierments West Streets. Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex. Mr R.J. Watson

and Miss T.J. Age
The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of Mr
and Mrs Peter Watson, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Tracy, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Axe, of Bessacarr, Doncaster.

Royal Society of St George

Mr William Firth, of Greater Manchester, has been elected ple, of Wickford, Vice-Chairman of the Royal Society of St George.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

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SUNCTON GREEN 2 doub rooms in buxury flet. Mod con

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8)

Ch

Is it nothing to you, you pass-ers-by? If only you would look and see; is there any agony like mine? Lamenta-tions 1: 12

BIRTHS

COYNE - Pat and Jane are delighted to announce the bitch of their beautiful sun, Thomas Joseph, on 2nd February 1997.

EDWARDS - Timothy and Sandy (née Gearsy) are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Adam james, Sibs 3oz, on March 21st at The Eoyal Free Hospital, Hampstead. LOVELL - On 17th March 1997. to Catherine (ase Baron) and lack, a son, William Patrick Francis, a brother for Hazzy, Charite and Himund.

LUFF - On 12th February, to Catherine and Charles, a son, Alexander Geoffrey Martin, MECHE- On February 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Julie Parsons and Nicholes, a beautiful daughter, Alana, a sister for Gregory and Hadrian.

COSTRON - Eleanor on 21st

DEATHS

BALLS - suddenly on 13th
March in South Africa,
Ronald Gordon of Berkillon-Sea. Much loved and
missed by his wife Haggis
and family. Service at St
Thomas's EC at Sevencels at
11.00am on Wednesday 2nd
April Donations if desired to
Bockdals
Honsing

Association, Sevenoals.

BROOK. - Cecil, unexpectedly at home on March 20th. Much loved husband of-Barbara, father of Chris and Gill, and grandfather of Offiver, Nikid, panes, Bolly and Kate. Frivate Cramation. Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter's Church, Terwick, ut Rogate on Tuesday April 8th at 11.50 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to British Heart Foundation of Puneral Services, 18 The Square, Petersfield. COCKBURN - Colonel John DSO, M.S.E., died pencefully on Thursday 20th March 1997, aged 96. Late of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Seloved husband of Diana. Funeral

private. No letters please.

HERROGE - Geoffrey Howard
CMG. On 21st March 1997
peacefully at West Wittering
Nursing Home aged 93
years. Beloved husband of
Derothy, much loved father
of Christian, Lily, Charles
and Michael, and dear
grandfather and great
grandfather. Private
aremation. Thanksgiving
service on Thunday 27th
March at St Mary's Church,
Sidlesham, West Sussex at
230pm.

DEATHS

MICHOLAS - Evador died on 20th March. Wife of the late Ronald, Mother of James, John and Rosslind. Fuseral to be held at Oxford Crematorium at 10.45 am on Wednesday 25th March. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to Multiple Sciencias Society, c/o Tomalin & Son, Funeral Directors, 38 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames. Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 1AG, Tel-(01491) 573370. formerly Chief Clerk of Churchili College Cambridge,

ROCK - Ame peacefully on 21st March. Survived by Carol and friends, Creantion Tuesday 25th March 12 noon at Golders Green

SEI 7EH.

WMGG - Ray, husband of Dot and father to Mark, Sharos and Nicole, passed away on March 19th 1997 after a brief Illnees. His distinguished international career spanned service with the Borneo Company, incheape Mahaysia, and until 1990 as International Director with MK Electric. A service will take place at the Holy Trinity Church, Sandgate Boad, Follesstone, Kent at 11.30m Wednesday 26th March 1997 followed by a private cremation. No flowers, but donations welcome to the East Kent Hospice Project efo Christine Pledger, 10 Metropol Court, The Leas, Follesstone, Kent CT20 2LI.

MILLOUGHEY - The Rev.

WILLOUGHBY - The Rev. Canon Bernard Digby passed peacefully away at Salvack on Piday 21st March, aged 100. Belowed husband of Parts and much lowed father Ruth and much loved father of Colin and Elizabeth. Service of thanksgiving in Salruck Church, on

MEMORIAL SERVICES BIRCH - Michael Soci

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Wednesday 26th at 11zm.
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- Monday 31st the deadline is Saturday 29th

ar to more. Tuesday 1st April the deadline is Monday 1pm. Telephone: 0171 680 6880 Facsimile: 0171 481 9313

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DBITUARIES

SIR JOHN FIGGESS

Sir John Figgess, KBE, CMG. Commissioner General for Britain, World Exposition, Osaka, 1968-70, and a director of Christie, Manson and Woods, 1973-82, died on March 20 aged 87. He was born on November 15, 1909.

leading British authority on Japan, John Figgess and his work were involved with I that country for nearly sevty years. He did secret work in Japan at the time of its invasion of China and during the build-up to the Second World War. He was involved with military intelligence in India and the postwar interrogations of Japanese war criminals. He had diplomatic service in Tokyo, culminating as Britain's alternate "ambassador as UK Commissioner General at the 1970 Osaka World Exposition.

Finally, he had another career as an art expert, spearheading Christie's penetration of the rich Japanese market. This owed much not only to his art expertise, but to his flawless

Through all his contacts in Japan government, business and members of the Imperial House - Figgess could claim his part in helping Japan to re-emerge as a peaceful ally. Never an apologist for Japan, he had a keen insight into what for many is still the baffling national character.

John George Figgess was born into a family of Ulster Protestants from Enniskülen. His father, an army officer, was killed in the First World War, and his mother struggled to send him to Whitgift Middle School,

Not being able to afford university fees, Figgess, wanting to learn Chinese, was recruited by British Intelligence and sent instead in 1933 to earn Japanese with a Tokyo family. His cover was "business". It was a turbulent time. Japan was annexing Manchuria and defying international bodies. Although Figgess, with his great height and strong nose, was to Japanese eyes the archetypal "Western devil", he was well placed to observe and warn about the threat of apanese expansionism.

The imminence of war in Europe

Tony Zale, world

middleweight boxing

champion, 1940-48, died

in Portage, Indiana, on

March 20 aged 83. He

was bora on May 29. 1913.

WHENEVER Tony Zale and

his great competitor, Rocky Graziano, stepped throu

ropes for a night's fistic busi-

ness, the result was sure to be

one of those "slugfests" so

beloved of American fight

fans. The pair fought three

torrid world championship

battles in as many years -

1946, 1947 and 1948 - none of

which required reference to the score card to adjudicate the

result. All three are regarded

as being classics of sheer

ferocity in an era rich with

middleweights — a division

which has always provided

the most exciting conjunction

of speed, skill and punching

Though he was given a four-

year "rest" from the ring while

he served in the US Navy

during the Second World War,

nothing was ever made easy

for Zale. He fought his way

from an Indiana steelmill to a

world title against some of the

hest men to have graced the

ring at the weight, and de-

fended it against a succession

of tough fighters who were

hungry to tear the world

a dozen times a year.

Chaplain to the University of East

The Rev Timothy Coleman, curate-in-

charge, St Peter and St Paul, Has-tings, and St John the Evangelist.

Hollington (Chichester), to be Vicar,

The Rev David Court, curate, Kinson (Salisbury), to be Priest-in-charge,

The Rev Peter Edwards, Vicar, Christ

The Rev Alan Fitch, CA. diocesan

Longlevens (Gloucester), to be Vicar, All Saints' and St Thomas's, Douglas

The Rev Simon Foster, curate,

Peter, Aldhorough Hatch

Anglia (Norwich).

Mile Cross, Norwich.

Sodor & Man).

HICA

brought him home. He was commissioned in the Army intelligence Corps, and attended staff college. After Pearl Harbor and Japan's occupation of most of South-East Asia, he was posted to thwart the Japanese threat to India. Based at Indian Army HQ at Delhi and then with Mountbatten's SE Asia Command, his unit deciphered intercepts of Japanese communications. Figgess was particularly engrossed

with the Victory for India Movement, whose leader Subhas Chandra Bose commanded the equivalent of two divisions in Burma on Japan's side. Although Bose's forces rarely got into action against the British, Figgess reported that his supporters believed he would return from Japan as a liberator. Instead he died in a Japanese air crash in Formosa, but the affair typically gave Figgess an earlier appreciation than most that the Raj could not continue after the

After 1945 he continued his Army intelligence career. He served for a year in the UK Liaison Mission to the American supremo, General Doug-las MacArthur, whose task was both to occupy and to democratise the deleated enemy. Figgess had specific tasks such as interrogating Japanese commanders prior to their trial by the International Military Tribunal. But his greater purpose, as assistant military attaché until 1953, was to further Britain's interest, alongside the Americans, with the generation of men and women who were to rehabilitate Japan. Japan's first postwar Prime Minister, Shigeru Yoshida, and his family were and remained prominent among Figgess's friends

Although he later came to question the need for the atomic bombing of Japan, Figgess believed the American occupation succeeded as one of the most benevolent and enlightened transformations of any society. But, as close observer of Chairman Mao's rise to power and the outbreak of war in Korea in 1950, he was less enchanted by MacArthur's actions, and the development of American policies. Amid loose talk of using atomic weapons to stem Communist advances. Figgess helped the Attlee



Japan. From 1968 to 1970 he was

Britain's effective ambassador at the

Osaka World Exposition. Such was

his entertaining that the funds ran

out. But with brilliant unorthodoxy

he saw the solution in the 60 million

Japanese visitors; he had his staff risk

their careers to set up schemes to sell

a specially struck British medallion,

as well as ice-cream. With the huge

funds generated, the entertainment

could be financed, and the aghast

Treasury in London told only after-wards. It did not affect his well

deserved appointment as KBE in

Amid the wreckage of Tokyo in 1946 Figgess met his future wife

Government to exercise restraint on Washington.

After Korea, as a staff officer at the War Office's MI Directorate, Figgess was mainly preoccupied with the French collapse in Indo-China, and the subsequent partition of Vietnam. But in 1956, promoted to full colonel, he was posted back to Japan as military attache, a job in which he witnessed the birth of Japan's new Self Defence Forces, before in 1961 transferring, under Foreign Office aegis, to become information counsellor at the British Embassy

For the next nine years. Figgess ws the interpreter to Tory and Labour movements alike of the emergent

Alette Idenburg, who had just left the liberated Dutch East Indies. They married in The Hague in 1948.

It was with her, in small-scale collecting at Tokyo junk shops, that Figgess developed the taste in oriental art that was to blossom in his later years. He became a self-taught scholar, particularly of early Chinese lacquers that have survived (if not in China) so significantly in Japan since 1600. He delighted in ceramics, too. in 1960 he co-authored with Fujio Koyama Ten Thousand Years of Oriental Ceramics and in 1973 The Heritage of Japanese Ceramics. Although he also contributed to specialist journals it is the one regret of his friends that he was too busy with living to write his memoirs.

In 1972 he entered the world of international art dealing with Christie's. The firm had recruited him for his extraordinary Japanese contacts but Figgess also brought to the work his enthusiasm for the hunt for sales. In one of his more extraordinary scoops, he was at one of Britain's grander country homes inspecting what the owners thought was saleable. Figgess, not particularly impressed with what he was shown, visited the bathroom and came across a piece that seemed to be used as an umbrella stand. He came down barely able to contain his excitement it was, he announced to the startled owners, a very rare 14th-century coldglazed copper red piece of early Chinese porcelain. At Christie's it went for a record price of 100,000

Figgess was respected in a wide circle of curators and collectors, in London and the Far East, and was actively engaged right up to his death. But he was particularly distinguished as a member of the expert advisory council to the Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art, attached to London University. And he was serving as president of the Oriental Ceramics Society when in 1990 he masterminded the Porcelain for Palaces exhibition at the British Museum - typically he had been invaluable in securing sponsorship by the Fujitsu company.

He is survived by his wife Alette, and two daughters.

cast off his uniform in 1946. By

this time the menacing figure

of Rocky Graziano, a street

tearaway and criminal whose

career had not been interrupt-

ed by the war, was astride the

The ring-rusty Zale had a

number of warm-up fights

the Yankee Stadium, New

York, on September 27, 1946.

Zale won this, the first of three

ferocious encounters, knock-

ing his man out with a left

hook to the jaw in the sixth, although he had himself been

on the floor earlier in the bout.

On their meeting again, in Chicago on July 16, 1947, this

verdict was reversed. Graziano, seemingly on the

verge of defeat, suddenly pro-

ducing a vicious counter-at-

tack to knock Zale out in the

Public opinion, which still

counted for something, how-

ever little, in those days,

demanded a decider, and a

third battle took place in

Newark, New Jersey, on June

10, 1948. In a short but explosive contest in which the

two men stood toe-to-toe

raining blows on each other,

against the European champi-

on Marcel Cerdan in Jersey

City. His gruelling career had

relentless rounds he was final-

ly knocked out. Thankfully, he

had the sense to retire at that

twilight of decline which is the

regain his title.

daughters.

sixth and take his crown.

middleweight division.

WILLIAM HILTON

William Hilton, Head of Astronautics at Hawker Siddeley Aviation, 1959-62, died on March 6 aged 84. He was born on June 10, 1912

A PIONEER among British

aerospace engineers, Bill Hilton was the first to use the term "the sound barrier" when explaining his work on supersonic aerodynamics to a journalist in the (aerodynamically speaking) far-off times of the 1930s. This was the time when the biplane still ruled supreme in RAF operational squadrons and Mach! was a concept smacking more of the novels of H.G. Wells than of anything likely to be achieved by a flesh-and-blood aviator. Hilton was in the forefront of ramiet and rocket development from the war years until the early 1960s when Britain voluntarily (and needlessly) gave up its commanding position in the field of space

technology.

Thereafter, his work was concentrated on the design of satellites to which he made contributions which are still acknowledged today.

A Londoner born and bred. William Frank Hilton went from Finchley County School to the Royal College of Science where he read physics, and then to Imperial College, where, in 1935, he gained his PhD with a thesis on Photography of Airscrew Shock

In 1935 he joined the Natonal Physical Laboratory where he took charge of the 12inch square high-speed wind tunnel. By 1942 he was running it at supersonic speeds to test guided rockets, aircraft and ramjets. In 1943, using a 20-inch by 8-inch flexible walled, high-speed wind tun-nel he had designed and built himself at NPL, he studied wing body interference at supersonic speeds and in the following year investigated the aerodynamics of wind tunnel models of the Miles E24/43 supersonic aircraft.

An Air Ministry project, to be handled by Miles Aircraft, the E24/43 was the first manned supersonic aircraft project in this country and became known as the Miles M52 Supersonic Aircraft. This was advanced work at a time tary aircraft in squadron service were still piston engined and were capable of little more than 400mph.

in the event, though no complete aircraft was ever built. Miles constructed a fullscale mock-up of the fuselage. A flying model was also built, a rocket-powered example being air-launched from a de Havilland Mosquito. But the

Government subsequently decided that Britain would not build a manned supersonic aircraft, and terminated the M52 project. It was only after the Americans had broken the sound barrier through Chuck Yeager and the air-launched. rocket-powered Bell XI that the British supersonic aircraft programme was pursued Other wartime work Hilton

did at the National Physical

Zale finally knocked out Graziano in the third, to Laboratory involved the development of the "bouncing bomb" used by the The end of his career was Dambusters' squadron against the Ruhr dams. He also advised on the Mulberry not far away. Three months later he defended again, Harbour, the great artificial ports which were constructed from old ships, steel girders and masses of concrete, to taken its toll, and after 12 receive the Allied invasion forces and supplies into the Normandy beachhead after D-Day. point, avoiding that awful After the war Hilton's ad-

fate of so many fighters who vanced research on ramjets led to his secondment in 1946 do not, or cannot, quit. In retirement Zale continto Johns Hopkins University, ued as a boxing coach for Baltimore. At the university's organisations such as the applied physics laboratory he was responsible for wind tun-Catholic Youth Organisation nel work on the Bumble Bee Chicago. His wife Philomena predeceased him, ramjet project. In 1954 he published High Speed Aeroand he is survived by two dynamics, which became a standard reference work on the subject.

From 1950 onwards, his work was on rockets and guided weapons. Joining Armstrong Whitworth, he was the chief aerodynamicist on the Sea Slug ship-to-air missile project - the Navy's first - for which he built a variable wind density tunnel. In 1959 he was appointed

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head of astronautics at Hawker Siddeley Aviation's advanced projects group. There, his 12-man team made the first studies to be undertaken in this country of communica-tions satellites, focusing on a system of low elliptical orbit satellites to maximise payload. Seeing the economic advantage, he proposed the use of the 63 degree inclined elliptical orbit for communications satellities in the northern hemisphere. This was recognised by scientists in the Soviet space programme and the Molniya satellites use this

In 1961 joint proposals for a communications satellite programme were put to the British Government by Hawker Siddeley and the French aerospace company Sereb, but they were not looked on with favour. Through its rejection of this opportunity to enter the multimillion dollar communications satellite industry, and its failure to capitalise on the highly-effective British rocket technology exemplified by the Blue Streak and Black Night rockets, the Government turned its back on space - and



squandered a huge investment. Hawker Siddeley, recognising the Government's lack of interest in its space projects, closed down its aeronautics section in 1962. Hilton and his valuable team of specialists were made redundant

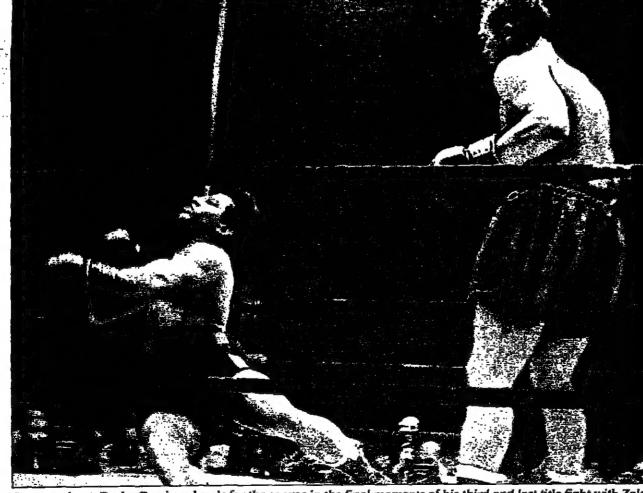
In 1963 Hilton became secretary of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and helped to found the Academy of Astronautics. In 1967 he served as assistant to the technical director of the British Aircraft Corporation, As such, he went to the United States as senior British representative on the team at Hughes Aircraft which designed the Intelstat 4 communications satellite.

One of his interests was the search for the existence of other life forms in the cosmos and he was associated with the IAF study group connected with this. He attended every meeting of the group, in whatever part of the world they were held, and only last year gave a paper at its

congress in Beijing. Hilton will be remembered as an inspirational leader in his field. The aerodynamic configurations of the re-entry vehicles he proposed in 1960 are very similar to those in use today. He continued to produce studies on space flight. Bill Hilton enjoyed a wide

range of hobbies ranging from ice-skating, ballroom dancing and skiing to playing the ukulele and collecting stamps. He is survived by his wife Joan, and by a son and two daughters.

TONY ZALE



Down and out: Rocky Graziano heads for the canvas in the final moments of his third and last title fight with Zale

crown from his head. Compared with today's carefully managed world championship boxing scene. against Graziano he won the in which fighters and their managers waltz cautiously first and the last. It was only after that - by then in his 35th around each other to secure year - that he finally surrenthe most lucrative of the dered his world title to the uppickings from the four or more

and-coming French-Algerian Marcel Cerdan. nitles which exist at each weight, the workrate of men He was born Anton Florian like Zale seems almost suicid-Zaleski, of Polish immigrant al. On his way to the title, nine stock, in the steel town of or ten bouts a year against top Gary, Indiana, where he opposition were meat and began his working life in a drink to him. Even after he rolling mill. It was this backhad become established as ground, combined with his champion he was fighting half awesome ability to soak up ounishment as well as dish it Of his three title fights

out, that earned for him his sobriquet "Man of Steel" when he took up boxing.

As a boy he fought as an

amateur, winning the Golden Gloves lightweight championship of his native state in 1931. Turning professional in 1934 he embarked on what was in those days the very hard road that had to be travelled before a boxer put himself into a position as a contender for championship honours. In his first year as a pro he fought an astonishing 21 contests. losing

five but establishing a reputation for being a fighter who when he hits them, they stay

The pay for such an apprenticeship was derisory and for one entire year, 1936, he had to return to the steelmill in Gary, Indiana, to earn a realistic living. But he was back in the ring the following year. punching all contenders out of the way, and early in 1940 he was marched with the National Boxing Association middleweight champion. Al

Hostak. Winning on points in ten rounds, he was rematched with Hostak later in the year, this time in a title fight. He knocked out Hostak in 13 rounds, but full recognition for the undisputed world title had to wait until the following year when he beat the New York State Athletic Commission's champion. Georgie

Ahrams. Soon after that, he joined the US Navy and it was an even more daunting boxing ethos he returned to when he finally

BY EXTRAORDINARY

EXPRESS We delayed publication to the latest possible

hour at the despatch of last steamer, in expectation of receiving full and authentic ridings of a reverse said to have occurred near Ludianah, but obtained none. Sir Harry Smith's division proceeded according to orders about the 19th, to march in the direction of Loodianah to reinforce the division under Colonel Gudby, considered too weak to be approved to the formidable body of Sikhs then

The force in all amounted to nearly 8,000 men. On the 20th an express arrived, intimating that the Londianah regiments were hemmed in ... The greater portion of the troops were encamped between Buddewa) and Lodianah - the 36th Native Infantry and Nusseerce battation being alone near the lown. The Sikhs now apprehending an attack, in turn abandoned Buddewal, and withdrew to a more advantageous position. Colonel Wheeler's brigade joined on the 25th, and a few days being allowed for rest and arrangements, it was resolved that an attack by the united force should be made on the 28th.

ON THIS DAY

March 24, 1846

The first Sikh War (1845-46) ended with a treaty at Lahore on March 9. The action described here took place in February. The second war (1848-49) saw the deleat of the Sikhs and the annexation of the Punjab.

The Sikh force had originally consisted of 20,000 men with 56 guns: on the 26th they were reinforced by the addition of 12 guns and 4,000 men - all regular well-disciplined troops. The strength of their position was the village of Ulleewul.

On the 28th the united divisions, consisting of 12,000 men and 32 guns, marched at daybreak from Buddewal in the direction of the enemy's camp. At the village of Churck we first got sight of the enemy. They advanced some distance beyond their entrenchments towards our division, and commenced a heavy cannonade on our troops. The village of Aleewal, the important point, was now

stormed by our troops. The whole line now pressed on and stormed the batteries everywhere, carrying the guns at the bayoner's

Charge after charge of our Cavairy broke and cut up the enemy as they endeavoured to rally. The 16th Lancers and 3d Cavalry suffered most severely; of the former 110 were killed or wounded in charging the enemy's guns, and in striving, and that most successfully, to break a square of a Khalsa regiment, which was quicky dispersed or cut to pieces. In this latter service 200 of the Irregular Horse, under Captain Hill, and 700 of the Shekawattee Brigade, eminently distinguished themselves.

The Sikhs fought gallantly, and their guns were excellently served; they opened at 10, and were not silenced till I o'clock - many of the artillerymen remaining till bayoneted at their posts. By noon the enemy were broken: they were driven by repeated charges of cavalry and infantry into, and across, the river. Many were drowned in attempting to escape.

Nothing could exceed the gallantry of the troops: the artillery was precise, steady, and destructive; the cavalry charges brilliant; and the infantry as determined, steady, and orderly, as if a ball-practice parade, and not a pitched battle, had been in hand . . .

Church news

The Rev Clive French, Chaplain, and Recent appointments include: Director of Ordinands, Royal Navy. The Rev Garth Barber, priest-into be Rector, St Dunstan, Cheam charge. All Hallows, Twickenham and Chaptain. Richmond upon (Southwark). Thames College (London), to be

The Rev Charles Hall, Vicar. Stapleford, and Rural Dean of Beeston (Southwell), to be Team Rector, Thetford Team Ministry (Norwich)

The Rev Doncan Harris, recently with Missions to Seamen, Cyprus, to be Port Chaplain, Missions to Seamen. Hull (York). The Rev David Hart Chaptain.

Loughborough University, to be Chaplain, Whitelands College The Rev Brian Hurst, Vicar. Holy Spirit, Denton, to be also acting Rural Dean of Newcastle West.

the King, Salfords, to be Rector, St Mary, Newington (Southwark). The Rev Nigel Lacry, curate, Mildenhall Team Ministry (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich), 10 be Assistant Priest, St Stephen and St community and race relations adviser and curate (NSM), Holy Trinity, Wulstan, Selly Park (Birminghum). The Rev Jonathan Lawson, curate. Usworth Team Ministry, to be Team Vicar, Usworth Team Ministry, to be Team Special responsibility for St Michael and All Angels, Sulgrave (Durham). Consent to be Priest-in-charge, St Hilda and St Columba, Darlington

The Rev Roy McCullough, Vicar St. Matthew with Holy Tringy, Burnley who is to be appointed Vicar, Waltar-le-Dale and Salme-hury, to be also an honorary canon of Blackburn

Cathedral The Rev Mark Norms, curate, M. Bartholomew, Roby, to be Curate St. Helen, St Helens (Liverpool) The Rev Christopher Pearson, curate,

St Peter, Streatham, to be Vicar, St Agnes, Kennington Park (Southwark). The Rev Paul Rayner Rector, St Andrew with St Peter, South Shoebury, to be Vicar, St Michael and All Angels, Loughton & helmsfords The Rev Adrian Robbins-Cole, curate St Stephen South Dulwich, to he Vicor, Holy Cross Abasput Park

(Southwark). The Rev Nigel Salter, View Highters Heath (Birmingham), to be Assistant Chaplain Greenwich Healthcare NHS Trust (Southwark)

The Rev Nigel Stone, Vicar, St Paul, Briston, to be Kingston Area Mission Team Member and Dioessan Adult Education and Training Officer

The Rev. Mark Tanner, Priest-incharge Holy Trongy Southwell, to be Vicar, Holy Trining, Southwell, and discontinue as part-time Research Officer to the Bishop of Southwell. The Rev Reveces Watts, Chaplain. Wadham College, Oxford, and cu-rate, Oxford St Mary the Virgin (Mord), to continue as Chaplain of

Wadham College only. The Rey Dr Samuel Wells, curate, Cherry Hinton out Teversham (Ely). to be Priest-in-charge. St Llizabeth. Earlhan, (Norwigh)

Canon Anthony Wilds Vicar, St Mary, Andewer with Forcost (Winchesters, to be Jeam Rector, Solihull Team Munistry (St. Alphege) (Birminghaute The Rev Martin Lloyd Williams curate, Bath Walcot, to be Rector, St Michael with St Paul, Bath

Withdrawal of acceptance The Rev Norman Swainson, Rector, Jarrow Grange (Durham), has with-drawn, for health reasons, his acceptance of the post of Priest-in-charge, plurality of Cockfield and Lynevack.

THE OVERLAND MAIL. DEFEAT OF THE SIKHS.

entrenched in the neighbourhood.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Army code to end gays ban

Army officers are drawing up a new code of moral conduct which would effectively remove the ban on homosexuals and change the current strict attitude towards adultery.

Senior Army officers rewriting the discipline and standards guidelines which were last updated in 1993, believe it is no longer justified to treat individuals differently on the basis of their sexuality

France welcomes lone sailor hero

France took Pete Goss to its heart when the British yachtsman finished his epic solo round-the-world voyage and was welcomed by more than a hundred thousand people in glorious spring weather. He was greeted by Raphael Dinelli, the French sailor whose life he saved in the Southern Ocean after his boat capsized ...

Tension rises

Middle East tension increased as Hamas threatened more suicide attacks against Israeli targets and violence continued in various parts of the occupied West _ Pages I, IO

Business wooed

Tony Blair and Gordon Brown stepped up Labour's efforts to woo business by promising a seat for the CBI on a committee to prepare for Britain's presidency of the EU in 1998......Page I

Go back to iail

More than half of all prisoners released from jail are reconvicted within two years, the Home Office says

Stowaway dies The body of a boy was found in the wheel bay of a British Airways jumbo jet after it landed at Gatwick. Ground crew discovered the boy, aged between eight and 12, in an aircraft from Nairobi.

Payments to MPs Mohamed Al-Fayed, the owner of Harrods, lost track of payments he made to MPs but claims Neil Hamilton accepted between £40,000 and £60,000 Page 4

Whale of a job

Thousands of sightseeers lined both banks of the river Forth to watch a flotilla of boats attempt to shepherd a 40ft sperm whale to

Woman rabbi row

One of the country's leading synagogues is divided over whether it should appoint a woman as senior rabbi. Accusations of prejudice have been made at the West London SynagoguePage 8

Eye surgery alert

Cut-price laser treatment to correct short sight may lead to a fall standards. The price has dropped from about Ei,500 per eye to less than £300 Page 9

Al Gore, the American Vice-President, will need to step gingerly when he sets foot in Beijing for .. Page II

four days of talks... Rebel leader

Careful visitor

Laurent Kabila, the rebel Zairean leader, has been fighting against President Mobutu most of his life. sustaining his war efforts by allegedly indulging in gold smuggling in Kivu... ... Page 12

Yettsin protests

Protests greeted President Yeltsin when he returned from his summit the opposition condemned agreements with President Clinton as "capitulation" Page 14

Hong Kong clock

Hundreds of people, some carrying banners like "Hong Kong comes home", cheered in Tiananmen Square as a huge electronic clock marking the number of days until China takes over thePage 5 colony turned to 100....... Page 14

A tale of Rachel, Emma and Oscar

Cinema history has been made by an unheard-of woman whose work has probably been heard by millions. Rachel Portman is the first female composer to be nominated for an Oscar. One of 31 Britons nominated for an Oscar — the awards ceremony for which is tonight - she was singled out for the music she wrote for Emma... .Page 3



BUSINESS

Going hostile: The extraordinary £5 billion bid battle between Germany's two biggest steel-makers could turn nasty again Page 48 Going shopping: A pre-election consumer boom will present the next Chancellor with an uncomfortable predicament and exert upward pressure on interest rates, according to an authoritative economic forecast Page 48

Smoke signals: Heavy litigation in the US by former smokers is forcing BAT Industries to consider splitting into two, and demerging its cigarette business...... Page 48

New alllance: Two Scottish companies, an insurer and an electricity producer, have formed a joint venture to cross-sell their respective

ARTS

Melvyn Bragg: "The Oscars are a way in which we, over here, while knowing ourselves to be Davids in the land of film, pitch ourselves boldly against the big Californian ... Page 1S

Versattle performer: Jimmy Nail proves he can still sing as well as act, producing two hours of great music in his Wembley Arena .Page 18

Shedding new light: The Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool celebrates the work of the underrated Victorian painter Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema. ...Page 18

Star team: The Royal Ballet fields its two biggest female stars -Sylvie Guillem and Darcey Bussell - on the opening night of its revival of La Bayadere...

FEATURES

Glowing smoothness: Finding a cream that makes ageing skin young is the dream of every cosmetic company. An Israeli laboratory may have some answers ... Page 15

Bun fight: A highly public row between two restaurateurs is giving New Yorkers their best laugh in ...Page 16

Clean sweep: When you have finished doing the houswork, when there is dust in your hair and Jif under your fingernails and the scummy ring around the bath has vanished, you have, to your delight. accomplished something __ Page 17

Old threads: Home sewing good, old-fashioned, thumb-pricking, cotton-twiddling sewing - is making a comeback in the United

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ POETS CORNER

Seamus Heaney talks

Ted Hughes on a new

about working with

poetry anthology

Lawvers who act

Frances Gibb reports

without charge:

LAW

for clients

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, is struggling with an extensive casualty list as he prepares for the international match against Mexico ... Rugby union: Italy enhanced their

claims for a place in an enlarged five nations' championship by defeating France — who nine days ago became champions — 40-32 in Grenoble.

loe skating: Tara Lipinski, 14, stole the judges' hearts and they made her the women's world champion figure skater. "Doubtless she has a soul, equally certainly she has not located it yet".....

Gott: José Maria Olazábal, of Spain, won the Turespaña Masters in Gran Canaria. It was only his third tournament after an 18-month lay-off with foot problems Page 26 Athletics: Paula Radcliffe struck a small blow for Europe in the world cross country championships in Turin when she took the silver medal in the senior women's

Racing: If a Labour Government is elected, a new chairman of the Tote will be appointed from a short-list of four.Page 35

14, 27, 39, 40, 41, 43; Bonus: 21 Three tickets each won £4,662,084 in a rollover jackpot; 13 won £236,259 for five numbers and bonus: 811 won £2,366 for five numbers.

die England discusses the Torics (Channel 4, 9pm). Review: Here Your Cake and Eat was quite quite brilliant....

Previous The Dinner Party, mid-

Hard labour

Nothing will be more important for Blair than to resist old Labour's siren calls to re-regulate the workplace - and nothing will be harder ____

Russia's pride

Russians have long memories a strong sense of their country's history and dangerous resentments The West should not gloat about using this window of opportunity to enlarge Nato.... -Page 21

Class distinctions

Britain's universities boast undergraduates who are more than a degree apart. A new survey reveals an aristocracy alongside an impos-Page 71 erished rump

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Tony Blair is resented by many Scottish Labour supporters as an-Englishman with a fancy access who has hijacked their party. The qualities that make Tony Blair popular in England tend to tell against him in Scotland ...

PETER RIDDELL

Tony Blair should start taking some risks. He often says privately, you don't think I have been so radical with the Labour party only to be cautious in government"... 20

Sir John Figgess, authority on Japan: William Hilton, aerospace pioneer. Tony Zale, boxer Page 23

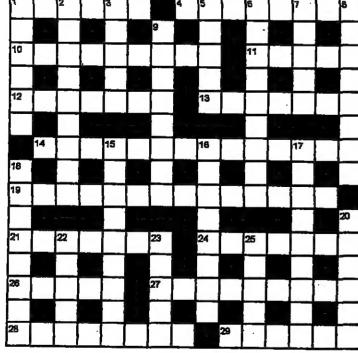
LEGISES

Public interest, Tory hopes and Labour's record: Albania: assisted places; "happy clappy" services; German map auction Page 21

THE PAPERS

Perhaps the Albanian crisis will force us to face the fact that in the post Cold War world, we have to grow up a bit and realise that America is not around to make our decisions. — Corriere Della Sera Afready too tolerant with Mr Netanyahou over the question of Jerusalem, America must not accept his "new approach." It heralds more dark days - Le Monde

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,435



- ACROSS I A university the river (6).
- 4 Female long on cheek might well be this (8). horsemanship 10 Display good
- escorting leader of brigands into jail (9). 11 Always carrying books to make
- 12 Reportedly masters something that's child's play (7).
- 13 Part of church where Liberal appears fortuitously? (7).
- 14 Become active and move own cricket gear (4.4.6).
- 19 In response to reference marks, stressed and up in arms (2,7,5).
- 21 Pitch where snake appears to proceed hesitatingly (7). 24 Hard rubber in erasers originally.
- to be recycled (7).
- 26 Worker in firm producing section of poem (5).
 - The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,434 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20

book token.

- 27 Animal in a Parisian outhouse, safe and sound (9). 28 Line of verse about mathematics (8).
- 29 Gorge from food container over

DOWN

- 1 Battle, possibly, for such high ecclesiastical office (6).
- 2 Estranged woman sheltered by girl and boy (9). 3 Mostly comply with directions associated with large corporation
- 5 Shrub's flower cut across (5).
- 6 E.g. McGonagall dipping into The Raven? (9). 7 Greek screen with ends trimmed
- 8 Vigorous description of an American boneshaker? (8).
- 9 Characters assumed to take exercise, with strange reason (8).
- 15 Deciphered a grim character's rambling tale (9).

 16 Woman Sir Patrick kept in a state
- of uncertainty (8). 17 Milky wash splashed around in drippy fashion (9).
- 18 Just so books ought to be (8).
- 20 Sinew displayed by heavyweight securing goal (6).
- 22 Creature with father's letters (5). 23 Conservative involved in genuine ceasefire (5).

25 Mid-West city invaded by Ameri-

cans one summer (5). Times Two Crossword, page 48

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50p per minute at all other times. HOURS OF DARKNESS

Full moon today London 6.21 pm to 6.62 am Brissol 6.30 pm to 6.02 am Edinburgh 6.35 pm to 6.02 am Manchester 6.30 pm to 5.59 am Penzance 6.42 pm to 6.14 am



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☐General: Rain in Scotland and N. freland will clear to drier, sunny intervals. Rain later. Cloud across England and Wales, rain following. Surmy intervals in West in afternoon, rather windy. Slight ground frost in East, temperatures near normal.

East, temperatures near normal.

DLondon, SE England, E Anglia, E England: Cloudy. Patchy rain or drizzle slowly dying out later. Wind light or moderate. Max 12C (54F).

DCentral S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, NW England, Lake District, Central N, NE England, Lake District, Central N, NE England. NE England: Rain or drizzle for a while, then drier but still cloudy. Wind

then some sun. Wind moderate of fresh. Max 11C (52F).

Disorders, Edinburgh & Dundee Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland: Rain or showers, then some sun. Wind moderate or fresh, Mex 10C

or moderate. Max 7C (451-).

IN Ireland: Surny spells and showers, cloud and rain leter. Wind north-west fresh becoming south-west strong later. Max 10C (50F).

Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Unsettled, with rain at times. Becoming windy in North.



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Weather summary by quattro.

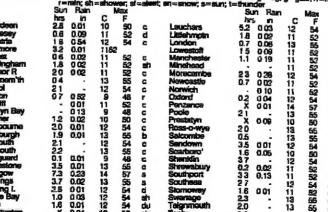
FORECAST

(50F).

Clorkney, Shetland: Mostly wet.

Wind mainly south or south-east light or moderate. Max 7C (45F).

light or moderate. Max 11C (52F). SW England, S Wales, N Wales, Isle of Man: Rain clearing by midday. AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



0 42

All times GMT. Heights in matres HIGHEST & LOWEST

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Please forgive our excitement at today's inclement weather. But if you've ever driven a car with our unique quattro technology you'll understand the joy, not the irritation, of driving in the wet.

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(j.

- 14 Sunny Sunny intervals Cloudy 10) **D**rizzle Overcast Rain Sunny showers Sleet and showers 👺 Lightning Haii Snow 13 (Celsius) Wind speed (mph) & direction CALM

Changes to the chart below from noon: high A slow moving with little change. Complex Lows U and W will deepen and become one, slow-moving near iceland

PM 14.19 13.39 19.28 18.10 23.34 23.54 12.13 22.49 18.27 18.45 AM 02:47 11:29 09:54 00:02 06:24 05:15 06:50 04:48 07:02 11:30 11:38 08:33 03:50 PM 15.08 23.44 21.51 12.27 18.21 17.32 19.27 23.53 23.44 23.15 18.49 18.00 Carolif
Devonport
Devonport
Dover
Dublin (N Wall)
Felmouth
Greenock
Hanwich
Holyhead
Holyhead
Hull (Albert D)
Biracombe
King's Lytin 10.33 08.32 06.10 06.39

Yesterday; Highest day temp: Glasgow airport 14C (57F); lowest day max.Lerwick, Shetland 7C (45F) highest mintell; Keswick, Cumbre (1.63in; highest sunsttine: Glasgow airport 7.3hr